Bombay Gazette.

PUBLISHED THRICE A WEEK, ON EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND FRIDAY, MORNING.

PRICE 13 RUPEES PER QUARTER :—52 RUPEES PER ANNUM :—OR, IF PAID IN ADVANCE, 48 RUPEES PER ANNUM.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in Malice."

Vol. LI. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 1840. **No. 3,148.**

FOR CALCUTTA, touching on the Malabar Coast.—The fast sailing Ship "SULTANA," 600 Tons, J. PAGE, Commander, will sail with quick dispatch. For Freight apply to MEETA SIAH, or Passage to EDULJEE FRAMJEE, Bombay Green.

PROSPECTUS

OF

A NEW JOURNAL,

TO BE STYLED

"THE BOMBAY HERALD."

IT has been often said, that more than three papers cannot subsist in Bombay, and this opinion draws assurance from the several successive abortive attempts which have lately been made to institute a fourth journal. The PROPRIETORS of the HERALD are, however, impressed with the notion, that where there is room for three, there can be room for four, and have accordingly determined, on the "*si viam non inveniam faciam*" principle, to issue their paper on the first Tuesday of next month.

The Proprietors hope for every indulgence from the public, and they will endeavour to merit a due share of support and patronage.

The HERALD will have its pages executed in a superior style of typography, and every pains, essential to neatness and correctness, will be bestowed on it. The paper will be printed twice a week, and published on the mornings of Tuesday and Friday. A single sheet of closely arranged matter will contain all the information, peculiar to the other journals here, and will, besides, be varied with pieces of original literature, principally on local scenes and topics.

Of what else the HERALD *will* be, it is best to let it speak for itself. The public are, however, assured, that *it* is not to begin and terminate its existence in this brief PROSPECTUS :—every exertion shall be used to make the journal worthy of respect and consideration.

Price Two Rupees per Month.

*** Applications to be made to Mr. E. KEAN, at Mr. VIEGAS' Circulating Library, No. 5, Church-lane, Fort.

Bombay, 10th April 1840.

CURSETJEE BURJORJEE has for Sale in his rooms, in Humman Street, No. 13, as follows—French Wines by the well known house of Balguerie and Co. in one dozen cases, consisting of St. Julien, St. Estephi, Sauterne, and Hautbrion at Rs. 12 per dozen; Burgundy at Rs. 20 per dozen.

Light Brown Stout at Rs. 7 per dozen.

A few dozen American Champaigne Cider, in Champaigne bottles in one dozen cases.

Alsop and Bass's Pale Ale, well up in bottle at Rs. 6 per dozen.

Also Dinner sets of the various colours and patterns.

Elegant Peer Glasses of fine British Plates and handsome burnishes gold frames of different sizes are for sale at CURSETJEE BURJORJEE, in Hummum Street, No. 13.—Bombay, 15th April 1840.

NOTICE.

FOR SALE.—At this Office, THE CALENDAR AND DIRECTORY for the present year, with the ARMY, CIVIL, AND INDIAN NAVY LISTS, EUROPEAN INHABITANTS, corrected to the latest possible date, and the list of H. H. the NIZAM'S ARMY,—It likewise contains regulations relating to the three services and to the Mercantile Community, with a variety of useful Tables and other matter, printed on English Paper in new Types. As only a limited number of copies is struck off, gentlemen desirous of having the CALENDAR and DIRECTORY are requested to make early applications. MARRYOTT'S CODE OF SIGNALS of the latest Edition now in the Press, will form a seperate Book, and delivered to Subscribers in a few days.

Bombay Gazette Office, 15th April 1840.

THIS day, Wednesday, the 15th Inst., Messrs. ROBERT FRITH AND CO., will sell by Public Auction at their Rooms the following valuable and extensive assortment of goods, viz., Long Cloth, Sheeting Cloth, Madapollams, Jaconets, Damask Table Cloths, and Fancy Table Covers; Damask Towelling; Gun Caps, and Wadding of various numbers; Three superior Double Barrelled Guns by "RENFERNS;" Silver, Glass and Queen's Ware, several handsome French Pictures in frames, and superior Billiard cues, Furniture, a Spanish Guitar, a Dressing Glass, a Racing Saddle, handsome Hookah Bottoms, Spare Shades, Medical Measures, Funnels, &c. &c. a few Choice Plants &c. &c.

At 1 P. M. 2 Grey Saddle Horses, and a Tattoo, after which a quantity of "Todd and Bosanquets" Champagne, as well as other in Pints and Quarts; 20 Hogsheads of Elliott's Beer, and 5 of Porter will be sold at the Custom House.

At 2 P. M. will be put up, Sundry Stores, the property of a Gentleman having left the Presidency, consisting of Wines, Beer, preserved Provisions, Hams, Preserves, Sauces, Bags of Rice, Dholl and Flour, and several Dhubbars of Ghee.

At 3 P. M. will be sold the following Stores from the wreck of the Ship "HANNAH" viz., 2 Brass Guns, a Ship's Bell, Sundry Blocks, a Foresail, Driver, Jib and top gallant sail, 8 pieces of Chain, 2 Ship's Compasses, 18 Brass belaying Pins; and 30 fathoms of six inch English Rope.

At 4 P. M. will be sold on the Bunder two anchors and chain cables belonging to the same Ship.

FOR SALE, at the Gazette Office;

Respondentia Bonds, each..	Rs.	1
Ship's Articles.....	,,	1
Policies of Insurance.....	,,	1
Bills of Exchange, per set.....	Ans.	8
Interest Bonds.....	,,	8
Bills of Lading.....	,,	8
Powers of Attorney, each.....	,,	8

☞ All orders for Letter-Press. and Copper-Plate Printing, will be punctually attended.—Bombay, 15th April 1840.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

NOTICE

Is hereby given, that it is the intention of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, to despatch a Steamer from Bombay, with a Mail for Suez, on Thursday the 30th of April next.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,
E. M. WOOD, Lt. Col. Secy. to Govt.

Bombay Castle, 18th March 1840.

NOTIFICATION.

With reference to the Notification issued from this Department under date the 13th ultimo, the attention of the public is particularly called to the circumstance, that an earlier date than is usual, (vizt. the 23rd of May) has been fixed on, for the despatch of the Steamer with the Mail for June next.

By order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council.
E. M. WOOD, Lieut. Col. *Secy. to Govt.*

FROM THE BOMBAY PRESS.

The *Mor*, has made a splendid passage. She left Plymouth on the 23rd October—reached Anjer on the 12th January—80 days—and China on the 15th February, making the passage from Plymouth to China in 115 days. She left China on the 29th February and arrived in Bombay on the 11th April—42 days: making in all 157 days from England to Bombay via China, deducting her detention of 14 days in China. The rapidity of this passage will be best understood by contrasting it with the latest *direct* passage from England to Bombay. The latest date from England via the Cape is 12th November by a Vessel arrived here on the 10th instant—being 150 days.

By this opportunity we have received papers and letters from Macao to 29th February. Matters appear to have continued comparatively quiet during the month of February. The Imperial commissioner *Lin* seems determined to harass the British Trade as much as possible. With the view of further annoying the English it is reported that he intends to limit the production of those Teas suited to the English markets—his plan being to limit the number of Tea Merchants, and that each be required to take out a License to make a certain stated quantity only. We apprehend that this policy will react with double force on the prosperity of the celestial empire, and give a prodigious stimulus to the manufacture of Tea in Assam.

We beg to direct attention to the following interesting letters from Macao :—

Macao, 25th February 1840.

Affairs have continued in a comparatively, quiet state since we had last the pleasure of addressing you on the 31st ultimo, and the alarm then prevailing as to the apprehended insecurity of doing business at Canton has in a great measure subsided, the Government not having put in force their order for the dollors in certain American vessels to be given over to the custody of the Hoppo—which it is thought will be revoked and meanwhile the dollers still remain on board.

An Edict has arrived enjoining the provincial authorities to prevent the ships of other foreign nations from exporting Tea and Rhubarb for the English and with this view restricting them to the quantities which they have been accustomed to take in former years. This if enforced, would greatly obstruct further supplies of Black Tea, of which the export has till this season, been confined almost entirely to British vessels. But the Regulation has not yet come into operation and when it does will commence with the present year, so that there will probably be little difficulty in getting out this seasons crops.

Another Imperial Edict submits to the consideration of the various provincial Governments, the expediency of excluding the trade of all foreign nations without exception, which Lin (now Governor of this province) is authorised to put in force should he deem fit, without further reference to Pekin, but it is not thought likely that he will do so.

The arrival from England on 15th Instant of the Barque "Mor" with news (to 23rd October) of an advance in Teas has given an additional impetus to speculation, and we understand a considerable quantity of common congous has been purchased at 22 Tales per pecul rendering it probable the seasons export of all kinds will not as was hoped be restricted to twenty millions.

The British community continue to reside at Macao, without any positive molestation, though under daily apprehension of being compelled to quit, troops being it is said, on the way to attack us; in expectation of which several of the more respectable Chinese inhabitants are withdrawing from the place. A similar attempt of the Mandarins, in the early part of this month was frustrated by H. M. S. "Hyacinth" having occupied a position for 24 hours in the inner harbour; on which the Chinese troops immediately decamped, and as he is prepared to report the same movement in case of need, it is to be hoped the dread of this will prevent their threats from being carried into effect. They are busy raising fortifications on several points in the neighbourhood.

Exchange on London 4 | 10 to 5. |

The advices received respecting the embarrassments of the U. S. Bank have induced a greater degree of caution in purchasing bills under American credit, so that those drawn on English account are more in demand, and likely to become more valuable.

Freights from Toonkoo to London have fluctuated from £8 to £6 10s.

Macao, 29th February.

We are in a sort of quiescent state at present, daily expecting the Ariel and Admiral.

A fair trade has been carried on during the past season through the Yankees, but much cut up by their commissions. Our information of the Canton Market is very limited and uncertain; we are quite dependant on brother Jonathan. I trust, however, our time is coming.

News have reached this of a serious affray that had taken place at Tonkoo between some Lascars and Chinese—two of the latter have been killed—the Chinese were the aggressors—particulars are not known.

The Export of Tea now reaches 9,779,360 lbs. The C. Grant is in the roads and will get away from this to-morrow or next day. I believe her freight will average £7 if not more.

The Balcarras is nearly loaded and has about the same freight. The Glenelg I fear will not get a Cargo. The *Castle Huntly* left this some days ago for Manilla where she discharges her Cotton. The *Charles Forbes* will get away in about 10 days, so will the Caledonia the "Clare" starts tomorrow.

Freights are £6. 10 | to £8. Exchange 4 | 10½ at 4 | 11—few transactions.

The Drug is in fair demand, but prices are much lower. I believe Drs. 700. at 750. per Chest. Few however, known the state of this trade except those actually engaged in it.—*Times Extra, April* 11.

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY OF BOMBAY.

Proceedings from the 1st January to 31st March, 1840.

MEMBERS ELECTED.

Ordinary.

J. Atkinson, Esq. Assistant Surgeon, Bombay Establishment.

J. R. Pinkerton, M. D. Assistant Surgeon, elected in accordance with Regulation 7.

Communications presented.

1. A letter from Monsieur L. Bouton, Secretary to the Society of Natural History at the Mauritius, acknowledging the receipt of the 2d volume of the Society's transactions.

2. A letter from Dr. Gibson, forwarding a specimen of the oil extracted from the Celastrus paniculatus. This is the *Oleum nigrum* of Dr. Harklots, recommended for the treatment of Beriberi.

3. A letter from Dr. Gibson, forwarding a parcel of the Indian Misteloe.

4. A letter from D. C. Bell, Esq. Superintending Surgeon, forwarding a specimen of a species of Lizard called *Chundun Goo* by the natives of Guzerat; and the bite of which, is supposed by them, speedily to prove fatal.

5. A letter from A. Burn, Esq. Civil Surgeon, Kaira, placing at the disposal of the Society a register of deaths and births in the town of Kaira, from the 11th March 1837 to the 1st February 1840.

6. Annual report of the field detachment at Balmeer, for the year 1838, by S. P. Prichard, Esq. presented by the Medical Board.

7. A dangerous case of flooding arising from adhesion of a portion of placenta, accompanied with irregular contractions of the uterus, by T. Waller, Esq.

8. A short sketch of the medical topography of Sukkur and of the diseases which prevailed in the brigade there, from March to December 1839, by J. Don, M, D. presented by the Medical Board.

9. Annual report of the Sick in the hospital of the Marine Battalion N. I. for 1838, by J. Burnes, Esq. K. H.

10. Annual report of the field detachment at Balmeer for 1839, by S. P. Prichard, Esq. presented by the Medical Board.

11. Annual report of the 7th regiment N. I. for 1839, by A. Weatherhead, M. D. oresented by the Medical Board.

12. Report on the Station of Kurrachee referring particularly to the months of August, September, and October 1839, by F. S. Cahill, Esq. presented by the Medical Board.

13. Report of Diseases in the 22d regiment Bombay N. I. stationed at Tatta and while in progress in boats up the Indus, during the months of August, September, and October 1839, by J. Inglis, Esq. presented by the Medical Board.

14. A case of chronic pleuritis, in which the operation of paracentisis thoracis was successfully performed, by J. Bourchier, M. D.

15. A catalogue of articles of the Meteria Medica of Europe and India, found at Aurungabad and in its vicinity, by A. Walker, M. D. His Highness the Nizam's Service.

16. A case of difficult labour in which the left arm presented, and in which, turning at a late stage successfully had recourse to, by A. Walker, M. D. H. H. Nizam's Service.

17. Register of the Thermometer kept at Kaira, from January 1838 to January 1840, by A. Burn, M. D.

18. A map of the town and cantonment of Kaira, by A. Burn, M. D.

19. A calculus extracted from the male uretha in 1838, at Kaira, by A. Burn, M. D.

20. Report on the Medical College of Bengal, presented by Dr. Goodeve, Professor of Anatomy in the Medical College of Bengal.

C. MOREHEAD,—*Secretary, Medical and Physical Society.*

Bombay, 1st April, 1840.

MILITARY ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.

April 12th.—Capt. W. D. Hamilton, 13th Dragoons.
do. 14th.—Lieut. R. Joy, Madras Army, Cannanore.

DEPARTURE.

April 14th.—Lieut. and Adjt. J. R. Wilson, 2d Regt. Infy., to Cannanore.

SHIPPING ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVED.—April 14th, Grab Brig Mahamudy, Jos. Correya, Master, from Singapoor 24th January. *Passengers.* Mr. R. N. Reid, 6 Malays and 2 Malay Convicts.

SAILED.—None.

VESSELS EXPECTED TO SAIL.

Vessels.	Agents.	Destination	To Sail.
A Steamer.....	Supt. I. Navy.	Suez.. ..	30th April.
Buckinghamshire	D. & M. Pestonjee.....	London ..	In April,
Lady East... ..	J. Nusserwanjee and Co...	London ..	
Ganges.....	Skinner and Co.	London ..	Dispatch.
Berkshire..	Remington&Co.	London ..	
Lancaster..	Higginson and Cardwell	Liverpool.	Dispatch.
City of Poona	Pollexfen, Milne and Co.....	Liverpool..	In April.
M.S. Elphinstone	Skinner & Co..		
Sir W. Wallace.	Do. . ..	Singapore.	
Fort William...	J. Jeejeebhoy..		
Emerald Isle..	Gibb Miller & Co.....		
Drongan..	T. Jefferies & Co.....		
Lady Rowena .	Dirom Carter and Co.. ..		
Marquis of Hastings.....	J. Jeejeebhoy..	Macao.. ..	Quick desp
Lady Feversham	Dirom Carter & Co.....		

VESSELS EXPECTED.

Vessels.	Agents.	From.	To Sail.
*Steamer Cleopatra.... ..	Supt. Indian Navy	London...	22d Nov.
Sesostris.....	Supt. I. N.....	London ..	
Abel Gower..	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	in Dec.
*Inglis..	B.&A. Hormusjee.	London ..	
*Catherine....	Forbes & Co . ..	London ..	22d Nov.
*Earl Durham.	Grey & Co.....	London ..	30th Dec.
Ann.....	Dirom, Carter&Co	London ..	11th Jan.
Euphrates	.....	London ..	30th Jan.
Thetis.....	.....	London ..	25th Jan.
Tartar.....	.....	London ..	
Juverna..	.....	London ..	
Lord W. Bentinck.... ..	.....	London ..	
Justina.... ..	.....	London ..	25th Jan.
Queen Victoria	.....	London ..	
Competent....	.....	Liverpool	
Caledona	.....	Liverpool	
John Knox. ..	.....	Liverpool	14th Nov.
*Shannon.. ..	P. Milne & Co..	Liverpool	11th Oct.
*Tinawarra.. ..	.....	Liverpool	7th Dec.
*W. Sharples..	H. & Cardwell..	Liverpool	20th Dec.
Barbara.....	R. S. & Co.. ..	Liverpool	12th Dec.
Cestrian..	Edmond Bibby&C	Liverpool	18th Dec.
Majestic..	George S. King.	Liverpool	2d week Ja
Wilson	W. Nicol & Co..	Liverpool	31st Dec.
Wm. Turner..	P. Milne & Co	Liverpool	15th Jan.
*Eleanor Lancaster.... ..	MacVicar B. Co	Liverpool	19th Nov.
Crown.....	Dirom Carter&Co	Do.. ..	28th Jan.
*Bucephalus..	W. Nicol & Co..	Clyde.. ..	
Maria.....	MacVicar B.&Co.	Do.. ..	20th Dec.
British King...	Skinner & Co. ..	Do.. ..	
Monarch.....	.....	Do.. ..	
Hindoostan ..	.....	Do.. ..	
Quinten Leech	.....	Do.. ..	
Mary Mitchelson....	Foster & Co....	Llanelly ..	30th Nov.
Queen.....	.....	Do.. ..	23d Sept.
Salacia.... ..	Dirom, Carter&Co	Do.. ..	
Pacquet d'Havana..	.....	Bordeaux	5th Aug.
Emilia..	F. Jefferies& Co.	Bordeaux	4th June.
Bolivar..	.....	Rio.....	

* Have sailed, by the latest accounts.

From Singapore.—Asia Felix.
From Columbo.—Jeane Antoinette.
From Calcutta.—Betsy, Fuzel Curreem.
From Penang.—Lady Wallace.

SHIPPING IN THE HARBOUR.

H. M. Ship Childers.

E. I. C. VESSELS.—Steamers Semiramis, Hugh Lindsay, Zenobia, Atalanta, Berenice, and Iron Steamer Planet.

Ceylon Govt. Steamer Seaforth. The E. I. C. Receiving Ship Hastings; Brig Taptee Schooner Constance, and Emily, Cutter Margaret.

Merchant Vessels.—Benares, Caudry, Hydroos, Futtay Rahimoo, Cornwallis, Adelaide, Dadaloy, Futtay Hulbarry, Hamudy, Fort William, Lady East, Lancaster, Hydroose, Buckinghamshire, Ganges, Colonel Newall, City of Poonah, Berkshire, Hamoody, Lord Castle, Drongan, Emerald Isle, Parland, Mount Stewart Elphinstone, Mahomedee, Recovery, Magistrate, Lady Rowena, Neptune, Lord Castlereagh, Parkfield, Mary, Abbotsford, Clifton, Sumed Ammy, Sultana, Dowlutpursad, Futtay Moombarruck, Caudersbux Khain Moombaruck, Gondolier, Kirkman Finlay, Orestes, Regular, Rungoon, Lady Feversham, Medora, Mor, and Mahamudy.

Portuguese.—Bark Marquis of Hastings, and Brig Esperance.

French.—Barque Augustus.

Arab.—Ship Tauze.

FOR PASSAGE TO CLYDE.

The fast sailing Teak Barque EMERALD ISLE, 580 Tons, W. C. F. McNeale, H. C. S. Commander, to sail about 25th Inst., she has excellent poop accommodation. Apply to the Commander or to

Gibb, Miller and Co.

Bombay, 15th April 1840.

FREIGHT FOR MANILLA AND MACAO.—The Portuguese Bark "UNIAM," (formerly the "MAHOMEDEE,") will sail about the end of this month. For Freight apply to Capt. Remedio, at the Office of Sir Roger de Faria.—Bombay, 15th April 1840.

THE GAZETTE.

Wednesday, April 15, 1840.

The following is the Shipping report since our last:

Arrived.—April 14, Grab Brig *Mahamoody*, J. Correyar, Master, from Singapore 24th January, Penang 8th February, Cochin 4th and Goa 28th March.

Passengers.—Mr. R. N. Reid, Mahomed Madury, 6 Malay Passengers and 2 Malay Convicts.

We have to correct an error in our last publication. The persons attacked with Cholera recovered, and are all doing well.

The Interregnum in the Editorial department of this Journal still existing, must be an apology to our readers for the lack of all comment upon many matters at present engrossing public attention.

Indian Intelligence.

CALCUTTA.

NEWS FROM SHIRAZ.

We have been favoured with the sight of private letters received here from the Gulph, from which we learn that Shiraz was in a state of anarchy and confusion, bordering upon rebellion, in consequence of the intolerable despotism exercised by *Shahzadeh* upon the people.

This worthy, it appears, had taken into his head to rule his peaceable subjects with an iron rod, and the latter, no longer able to bear this galling yoke of tyranny, had risen *en masse* against the despot, and threatened to expel him from the city! The shops were shut for several days, and everything was at a stand still. During this civil broil, about one hundred persons fell on both sides, and the wounded amounted to upwards of two hundred. A Minister Plenipotentiary having arrived from the Court of Teheran, took the earliest steps to quell the disturbance, by insisting upon the injudicious *Shahzadeh* to quit the city *instanter*, and thus to dissolve the correlative connection which subsisted betwren him and his subjects, and which had proved so irksome to the latter. Mirza Nebi Khan, for so is the Minister called, endeavored to conciliate the inhabitants of Sheraz, by pouring healing balm upon their grieved hearts, and promising to use his influence in promoting the general welfare and happiness of the governed. He had put himself in correspondence with the cabinet of the Court of Teheran, and awaited the instructions of his Royal Master as to the appointment of a mild and peaceable prince or nobleman in the room of the expelled tyrant. This untoward repetition of civil broils in the very heart of Farsistan, is in a great measure attributable to the imbecility and inefficiency of the Government of Persia, and in some degree to the alleged unpopularity of the ruling brothers of the Persian Monarch. Be that as it may, the present posture of affairs in that ill-fated country is a sufficient indication that there is something rotten in the state of Persia, and that to get Augean stables cleaned, is more than a Herculean task to the crowned descendant of the *Kajar* dynasty! The greater part of the population are, it seems, very fond of Mahomed Shah, and by their characteristic exaggeration, extol his virtues and achievements to the skies! They compare him to *Jemshed* and *Rustum*, and to other celebrated heroes immortalised by the prolific muse of *Firdusi*—the Homer of Persia! In evincing this undue predilection to their giddy and inexperienced king, they only verify the old oriental adage which says—"*a fool is apt to praise himself, and an idiot his own wife!*"—*Courier, April* 4.

UNCOVENANTED DEPUTY MAGISTRATES.

The *Courier* of Thursday mentions that it is intended immediately to appoint the Uncovenant Deputy Magistrates. This, we presume, is the first step in the alteration and amendments of the present Mofussil Police system, and we hail the intelligence with a pleasure proportioned to our sense of its necessity. It was understood that the matter had been referred home for final approbation, and possibly the determination may be a consequence of instructions received by the Overland Mail. We hope that, if the new arrangements are authorized, no time will be lost in carrying them into execution; for, as it respects the well doing of the inhabitants, and of the poorer classes especially, we know nothing that would be done by the Government which would give more real or more general satisfaction. We take this opportunity of stating that the employment of Christians—selection being always carefully made—for the subordinate situations appears to be most desirable—at least for the present,—so that there may remain no chance of a link between the Darogah and the Amlah of the Courts, beyond the connection which duty creates. No darogah can faithfully discharge the functions of his office, who is held in fear by the manœuvring of the Court officials, between whom and the wealthy natives there will always be an understanding, from the repeated litigations which the latter have pending. Should any of these be guilty of oppression, the chance for its being fairly brought to light lies in having men, in the station of darogahs and naibs, who will not only fearlessly do *their* duty, but take good care that duty shall be equally performed by their underlings; and this, we conceive, can only be effected by appointing such as have no common interest with the natives, either of the court or the district—an interest from which the thannadar of the present system is never wholly exempt. We venture to renew this suggestion, because, however, vigilant the Deputy Magistrate may be, we are quite sure his control will not be an efficient one, until he is aided by the activity and honesty of men who have a conscience to consult. In those *raræ aves*—a conscientious Policeman of the present day—we have little faith. If any are to be found, they are either so surrounded by corruption, both above and below them, that they can do little good, and at any rate their numbers are so few, that they only form the exception which confirms the general fact.—*Commil. Adver. April* 4.

THE LEGALITY OF THE OPIUM SCRIP.

In the opium case (Ramsabuck Mullick v. De Souza and Co.) the Court yesterday found a verdict for the plaintiff upon all the issues, and estimated the damages according to the price at which the opium was purchased. We are informed that the guarantee given in this case would be construed by mercantile usage, and was in reality attended, merely as a guarantee against the insolvency or wilful default of the agent, and not as an insurance against micellaneous risks. Courts of law, however, are bound to construe written agreements according to the meaning which they bear upon the face of them; and our mercantile friends had better make a *Mem.* that in giving a guarantee is intended to be restricted.—*Harkaru, April* 4.

Newspaper reading is a very pleasant occupation. Do not be afraid, dear public, we are not making an insidious attempt upon your pockets—we are not saying anything to induce you to subscribe. We are simply alluding to our own tastes, which in this season of plentiful caloric and copious exudation, set in very much towards sofa-reading, magazines and periodicals of sorts. Not that we ever do derive any pleasure from this species of recreation, but a part of our daily business. Could we follow our own inclinations, just read as much as, and no more than, we like, choosing our own articles and sleeping over them, if so disposed, we should not envy Grey, the poet, with his "eternal new novels of Marivaux and Crebillon," but should lead a happy, though not a very useful, life of ease, and look upon literature as a blessing. But when it comes to poring over endless papers, with no time to read *through* an attractive article and a necessity of mustering the contents of numberless unattractive ones, upon every possible description of subject, it becomes a very different business. Interminable debates, long political and commercial articles, horrid accidents, police reports, reviews of new books, are all to be read, *in a way*, and the "heart," to use a strong Johnsonian expression, is to be "torne out" of some dozen huge files of papers, for the benefit of our gentle friends, the public. All this trouble is now unfortunately on the increase, for of all the many labours of the newsprovider, and they are Legion, the cutting down of debates is the most onerous and the most ungrateful. Our readers, we know, like to get at the pith of the most important Parliamentary discussions, but few have the time and fewer the inclination to read them through, in all their original longitude. Thus circumstanced, we are not, a little glad to find in the London. *Examiner*, an admirable collection of "elegant extracts," under the title of *striking points of the Debate* which have evidently been culled by a master-hand, and which being brief, yet most suggestive in their brevity, we are sure, will be read with pleasure. The different headings are admirably discriminated, and the whole furnishes such an excellent series of Parliamentary "beauties," that, we shall avail ourselves of our London contemporary's labours and, hoping that he will continue his excerpts to this sort, give the first portion of them this day. Should we, however, be disappointed, we shall attempt shortly after the arrival of each mail, something of the kind ourselves, as we are sure that fifty readers will go through the bate.—*Hurkaru, April* 4.

STRIKE AMONGST THE CALCUTTA BARRISTERS.

We hear that yesterday, that ill-paid class of operatives, the Barristers of the Supreme Court, struck for wages. We really pity the wives and families of such a hard-working and industrious class, who will now be thrown out of bread, unless the Judges who have the regulation of the pay table, should take compassion and allow them to name their own price for their labour, which is quite conformable to the most approved principles of political economy.

The proper remedy for such a state of affairs is to throw open the court to every man whose character will bear examination, and allow all such to plead if they think their knowledge of this peculiar mechanic art sufficient to turn out their work to the satisfaction of their customers. Break down the monopoly and leave every man to name his own price for his own labour.—*Englishman, April* 4.

European Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, March 2.

Lord Stanley brought up the report of the North Union Railway.

After the presentation of a variety of petitions,

Sir E. Knatchbull moved that the petitioners for the Canterbury pavement bill be allowed to proceed with it, notwithstanding the report of the committee of standing orders against it.

Mr. Greene opposed the motion on the ground that the parties had not complied with one of the standing orders of the house.

After some conversation, in which several members took part, the house divided—

For the motion..... 5 | Against it..... 54

Majority.....49

The Hon. Capt. Howard took the oaths and his seat as the member for Morpeth.

Mr. Pakington brought in the sale of beer bill, which was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time March 18.

Mr. O'Connell presented a petition from Darlington, strongly condemnatory of the opium trade with China. The hon. and learned member also presented a petition from Armagh in favour of the sale of spirits (Ireland) bill.

Mr. Ord moved the order of the day for the adjourned debate on controverted elections.

The Speaker having put the question, that the attendance of panels No. 1 and 2, on the 12th of March be discharged.

The Solicitor-General said that he had looked into the act of parliament since the house sat last, and it appeared to him, after a careful perusal of the act, that the proper course to be taken would be, that the motion of the hon. member should be negatived, which would have the effect of leaving the panel to attend according to their order, and when the panel attended the general committee could pass by the Ludlow, and nominate the others in the order in which they stood. The hon. and learned member then proceeded to detail the provisions of the act, and observed that in the Ludlow case the notices had not been given which were required. The notices not having been given and refused, according to the provisions of the act, the proceedings, in his opinion, were suspended. The question then was, whether it was necessary to suspend the nomination of all the four petitions, because the first committee was not in a situation to proceed. He had come to the conclusion that such a course was not necessary, but that the Ludlow case coming within the 22d section, the proceedings upon it must be suspended till the proper notices had been given.

Sir W. Rae thought that as the Ludlow petition had been presented last session, it came under the provisions of the 9th section of the act, and therefore could not be treated as a petition presented last session ought to be considered before any presented during the present session. The Ludlow petition had been presented last session, and the petition presented in the present session ought to be considered as part of the first proceeding; and therefore the provisions of the act had not been complied with. He would propose that all orders remitting any petitions to the election committee should be read and discharged, and a new remittance of such petitions made to the general committee in a proper and legal order.

Sir W. Follett agreed with the right hon. gentleman who had last spoken, as to the construction to be placed upon the act, and differed from his right hon. friend the Solicitor General. He should not oppose the motion, which he apprehended to be a right one. There were only two clauses in the act which applied, the 52d and the 30th. (The hon. member then read the clauses.) Suppose a petition referred to the general committee against the sitting member, and he gave notice that he did not mean to defend his seat, and notice is inserted in the *Gazette* and then the general committee suspend it. He thought they would find no other clause, in the act empowering them to do so, but the 32d clause, and that they had no power to take one case before another, except it had been particularly provided for. If it occurred that a petition had been presented this session, and referred to the general committee, and the sitting member had said he did not mean to defend his seat, and notice had been given, then the power of suspending it would have applied, but it would apply only to a case of that sort. Then came the 52d section; and it was argued under that, that inasmuch as they could not proceed with the Ludlow petition, because they had not given a notice of thirty days, it was therefore virtually suspended, but he apprehended the clause applied only to the "cases hereinbefore provided" for, and that inasmuch as they had not given the right notice to the party in the Ludlow election, it was necessary such person should have such notice before they proceeded; and as the general committee had appointed days on which they could not proceed to the trial of the petition, and they had the power of appointing other days, they should do so, and take care that they did not take one petition before they had disposed of the other. (Hear.)

The Attorney General said he unfortunately was not in his place on the former discussion of this subject, and he was sorry to say he did not know what course to recommend the house to adopt. When the bill of the right hon. member for Tamworth was brought before the house, he had ventured respectfully to state that he thought it would be better to repeal the 6th Geo. IV. entirely, and pass an act by which parliamentary costs might be enforced. Unfortunately it seemed to him the house had taken a different course, and erected a statutable tribunal, which must proceed in the course the act of parliament had prescribed. He regretted exceedingly that the house had got into its present difficulty, nor could he see his way out of it except by fresh legislation. As he had stated on a former occasion, it appeared to him that that house could never satisfactorily and beneficially exercise its right to determine election petitions until all the acts on the subject were repealed. All they wanted was the power to award costs, and then their proceedings would be rendered independent of the courts of law.

Sir T. Fremantle regretted that the hon. and learned gentleman did not approve of the suggestion of his right hon. friend, which was to consider all the previous proceedings as irregular—to discharge the order, and then to come regularly before the house again. The hon. and learned gentleman said the house had done everything required by the act of parliament. Now, it could not be undone. He (Sir T. Fremantle) would, however, contend that the house had done things in so irregular and informal a manner, that they had not complied with the act of parliament. It appeared to him under all the circumstances, that the best thing they could do would be to commence *de novo*.

Sir G. Grey said that he certainly thought that of all the propositions made to the house, that of his hon. friend the Chairman was the best. With regard to the assertions of the hon. and learned member for Exeter, relative to the 52d clause of the act, he did not think that clause rendered it necessary for them to adopt that course of proceeding which the hon. and learned member seemed to think. That clause merely prescribed that the committees should be taken as they stood on the list. But the question was, what was the order in which they then stood, and he believed that the committees might now be considered to have changed their places.

Mr. F. Kelly said that whatever difference of opinion might exist as to the questions raised on the occasion, they should all admit that it was of the last importance that a correct decision should be arrived at on the case then before the house. He should say that he differed in one point with his hon. and learned friend the Attorney-General, and that he did not think that the least difficulty could be created by the operation of the 93d section of the act. He though that the provisions of that section had been strictly as well as substantially complied with, and that therefore the proceedings were not, in any degree, irregular in that regard. It was not competent for that house to rescind any order which it had made for referring this matter to the general committee. He could not support the amendment of the right hon. and learned gentleman below him, but he thought some amendment might become to under which, in reality, the house would not take any step whatever, but leave it to the general committee to take the course they might think right, which he (Mr. Kelly) apprehended would be to rescind their present order.

Lord J. Russell did not know whether he apprehended the question correctly, but as he understood it, he felt very much inclined to agree with the honourable and learned member who had just sat down. The view he took of the queation was this—by the 93d section of the act the house was to refer the election petitions, which were before it last session, to a general committee; the house had referred those petitions according to the provisions of the act, with the exception of one, which had since been referred to the general committee of selection, and the question was whether the general committee had any power under the act of appointing days for those committees to sit, and whether they could make any alteration as to the order in which the whole stood. As to the last point, he did not think the order could be altered, but he thought from the words of the act that a power was given for altering the time. Now that, being the case, the learned gentleman who had last spoken asked, was it necessary the house should interfere? He (Lord J. Russell) did not think it was. But as he viewed the motion of the hon. chairman of the committee, it was not proposed that the house should in any way interfere or direct anything to be done by the general committee, but only to interfere in regard to an order made by themselves. The chairman of the committee having stated in the house that if there was no notice given other than the twenty four or forty eight hours directed by the act, the first and second panels would not be in attendance when the committee were, chosen, it was therefore desirable that the house should so far interfere as to direct the attendance of the first and second panels on certain days. That was quite an independent question from the one which they had now been arguing. (Hear.) The house had the most perfect right to make such an order for the general convenience, or to revoke it. But it was not proposed to interfere with the general powers of the committee under the act. He thought it most desirable that these powers should be left to their own discretion—anxious, as they doubtless would be, to conform to the provisions of the act of parliament.

Sir R. Peel thought the wisest course for the house to pursue would be to remove all obstruction to the free action of the general committee, and if the general committee, on further consideration of the subject, should find the intervention of Parliament necessary to remove the difficulty, they might make a special report to the house on the subject. He would support the motion of the hon. gentleman, of which he approved, and he thought it ought to be complied with in order to give the general committee an opportunity of seeing if they could not, they might make a special report, calling for the intervention of parliament for the purpose of obtaining that which he was convinced was the object they all had in view—that of doing justice to all parties. (Hear.)

Mr. Gisborne said he had a petition to present from Mr. Alcock, the sitting member for Ludlow, in reference to the matter now under discussion, which he requested might be read by the clerk at the table.

Mr. Goulburn rose to order. There was a question already under discussion, which he requested might be read by the clerk at the table.

Mr. Goulburn rose to order. There was a question already under discussion, and therefore he apprehended that the petition could not now be read.

The Speaker said it would be quite contrary to order to have the petition read at the table until the question now before the house had been disposed of.

The question was then put from the chair, and the motion agreed to without a division.

The petition was then read by the clerk, but in consequence of the noise occasioned by the conversation of hon. members, we were unable to hear a word of it.

Mr. Gisborne said he begged leave to move that it be printed with the votes, as he apprehended, in the first place, it had not been heard by the house, and in the next, since on the present occasion they had had the benefit of the opinions of the greatest legal authorities in the house, and he was not quite aware that any two of them agreed upon it.

Mr. Wynn did not think the house could adopt any proceeding with regard to the present petition.

The Attorney-General was of opinion that Mr. Alcock had at present no *locus standi* in the house. (Hear.) He was of opinion that the parties interested in the matter could not have justice done them without the intervention of an act of parliament.

Mr. Gisborne would not press the motion against the sense of the house.

Sir G. Clerk doubted whether the petition could be received, and he would suggest to his hon. friend, whether the most convenient course would not be to withdraw the petition for the present.

Mr. Gisborne did not see why he should withdraw his motion.

The Speaker said that he did not apprehend the hon. member would be entitled to call on the house to have this petition printed with the votes of the house, as it was not in election, and he therefore thought that it would be better for the hon. member to withdraw his petition.

Mr. Gisborne said he should yield to the suggestion of the Chair.

Mr. Hume gave notice that he would at an early period move for an account of sums paid as pensions under the statutes of Geo. III. and Geo. IV.

Sir J. Graham gave notice that, if the papers connected with China were not presented to the house before Thursday next, he should on that day move an humble address to her Majesty, praying her Majesty that the papers relating to a commercial intercourse with that country should be presented to the house.

Lord J. Russell gave notice that on Thursday next he would move for leave to bring in a bill for the purpose of giving summary protection to the publishers of parliamentary papers.

Mr. Barneby wished to ask the hon. member for Cambridge whether he intended to bring forward his motion with regard to the corn laws on the day he had appointed, or whether he intended to postpone it till the general question came before the house.

Mr. Pryme said that he intended to bring forward his motion as an amendment to the motion of the hon. member for Wolverhampton, if he should then be able to attend his place in the house.

Sir G. Clerk said that he wished to have the evidence that was taken the other night, relative to the delivery of the notices respecting election petitions referred to the consideration of a select committee, in order that they might consider the subject, and report to the house in what way the regular service of those notices could be secured. It was obvious that, as the general committee would have to issue notices very soon again, some directions ought to be given for the regular service of notices. Had these notices been delivered regularly, the house would not have been pleased in the difficult and embarrassing circumstances that had arisen, and which had given rise to the discussion of that day. He therefore begged to give notice that he should tomorrow move for the appointment of a select committee.

Lord G. Somerset wished to ask when it was the intention of the noble lord, the Secretary for the Colonies, to bring in his bill for the amendment of the new poor law act? He trusted that the noble lord would give ample time after its introduction to hon. members to make themselves acquainted with the provisions of the bill.

Lord J. Russell said he should be ready to bring in the bill before Easter, but it was his intention to propose that the principle should be discussed after the recess.

Mr. Hume gave notice that it was his intention on Friday night, either upon the house going into committee of supply, or upon the report being brought up, to call the attention of the house to the state of

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affairs in Turkey and Egypt. and the conduct of the government in endeavouring to keep up a war in those parts.

Lord J. Russell said that he should be prepared, when the subject was brought forward, to show that the government had interfered in a manner that was calculated to prevent rather than excite hostility.

Sir R. Peel wished to know whether the noble lord opposite would be prepared to lay any papers before parliament connected with the differences with respect to the North American boundary. He thought that the dignity of the house required that it should have its information on so important a subject from official papers, and not from the newspapers, which at present were the only means of affording any information on that subject.

Lord J. Russell said that the papers to which the right hon. gentleman had referred had appeared in the newspapers, in consequence, as he believed, of the United States having thought fit to lay them before the Senate of the United States. He had no objection to lay on the table of the house all the papers the government had the subject; at the same time, he did not think the negociations were in a fit state to be discussed by that house, as the correspondence was still going on.

Mr. Hume wished to ask if there would be laid before the house in time to avail, during the corn law debates, the valuable and important information relative to the meeting at Berlin of delegates from various parts of the continent? The reports were printed and in the hands of some members. They contained most important information as to the effect of a repeal of the corn laws, in respect to an amicable arrangement for commercial intercourse with this country; the corn law debates would come on about the 25th, and there was hardly time to have these documents printed; and unless they were officially before the house they could not be used with advantage.

Lord J. Russell had no objection to their production.

Mr. Hume.—No objection! Why, so I was told two months ago; but I want them. (Laughter.) Can I give a notice, Sir, for address to procure their production?

The Speaker said, to-morrow. (A laugh.)

(To be Continued.)

PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE.

Constantinople, Feb 5.

It would he difficult to say at the present moment with any degree of certainty what steps are being taken by the Divan in regard to the Egyptian question, for the reports are so numerous, and of so contradictory a nature, as to throw the public mind into perfect perplexity as to the real state of affairs. The general impression is, however, that the answer returned by the Porte to the communication lately made to it by the Russian Ambassador is tantamount to an acceptation of the conditions which have been proposed, but the Divan has postponed coming to any final determination on the subject until fresh advices should be received from Alexandria. This state of things cannot be prolonged, and the question having now been taken up with energy by the great Powers, it must be soon brought to a crisis, and as this period approaches the anxiety and interest of all increase. Part of the English fleet, consisting of four-line-of battle-ships, had been sent by Admiral Stopford to Malta from Vourla, but on the arrival, the day after their departure, of the Gorgon steamer with important despatches, the Admiral had sent off orders for their return, immediately they had taken on board the supplies necessary for the remainder of the fleet.

The attention of the Government, it would seem was entirely devoted to the carrying into execution the proclamation of Gulhane. Another important measure is now under the deliberation of the Special Council—that of regulating the military service and the time fixed for serving will be reduced to the space of four years. The firman for levying of taxes was read to all the newly-appointed governors who have been lately sent to the different districts, at fixed salaries, and it is the intention of Government immediately to take measures of restoring to those who formerly became purchasers of the posts they now hold the amount they paid for them, when they will at once be recalled, or receive a fixed sum annually from the treasury. Selim Bey, the present Governor of Smyrna, it is said, will be immediately ordered back. The peculiar advantages arising out of the municipal changes are beginning to be felt by all classes. The Sarafs, now no longer abetto employ their capitals as formerly, have, after a meeting of that body, raised of their own accords sum of nearly 1,000,000l. sterling, which they have placed at the disposal of the Government to meet its present contingencies. This sum has been accepted, and a sufficient guarantee given for its repayment after two years, at the rate of 18 per cent, interest, payable every six months, giving likewise the option to the Sarafs of receiving the amount of the interest in land, free from any tax during the time of loan. This may be regarded as a proof of returning confidence, and it may be hoped that the judicious and firm measures that the Government are adopting to secure to every individual protection of property will be productive of the most brilliant results. Letters received by the last messenger form Persia bring news down to the 12th of last month from Tabriz: they state that the Schah has raised a considerable army, and would form a camp near Teheran, where considerable reinforcements had arrived. It was thought that he would proceed to Ispahan, where a serious revolt had broken out, but it was not positively known where he was going. Colonel Shell had not left Erzeroum on the 21st ult., and would, before proceeding to Tabriz, obtain some information of the movements of the Persian army. Kosrew Pasha is now convalescent: his illness at one time created much alarm in the minds of his medical attendants, who had given up all hopes of his recovery from his last attack. In the event of his death, it was expected a disturbance would have taken place among the discontented in the capital, so that the authorities thought it prudent to make preparations for the preservation of the peace and the prevention of tumult, and ordered a force sufficient for this purpose to be stationed in different parts of the town. Every thing, however, remained perfectly tranquil. The iron steamboat for the Russian Government, which I mentioned as supposed to be lost, from the length of time that had elapsed since her having left Malta, arrived here last week. W.

FORMATION OF A NEW MINISTRY IN FRANCE.

The French ministerial crisis is at an end. M. Thiers is to be the President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs. Our Paris correspondent writes as follows, under date of Saturday afternoon:—"The official announcement of the new Cabinet will probably appear in the *Moniteur* to-morrow morning. Such at least is the expectation of the retiring ministers; and it is not probable that there will be any alteration in the decision of the King, although the announcement may be delayed."

The new ministry will, it is said, be composed as follows:

M. de Remusat.....Home-office.
M. Vivien.....Justice.
M. Cousin.....Public Instruction.
M. Jaubert.....Minister of Public Works.
Pelet de la Lozere...Minister of Commerce.
Admiral Rousin.....Marine.
General Cubieres....War.

The following is the postcript of our correspondent's communication:—

"STOCK EXCHANGE.—The news by telegraphic despatch, of Madrid having been declared in a state of siege, has not had so much effect as was expected. The French funds have not fallen, and the Spanish only fell 2 per cent., and then recovered 1 per cent.; but there was scarcely anything doing. I never knew so few transactions on an event of such importance. It is supposed by some that the acsess on of M. Thiers has prevented a serious fall, as it is believed that he will act vigorously against the Carlists, and in support of the Constitutional system."

The following are extracts on this subject from other Paris journals:—

PARIS, Feb. 29.—The *Presse* of this morning says:—

"It is believed that no *extraordinary Moniteur* will be published to-morrow (Saturday), but that its official part will contain on Sunday morning the composition of the new cabinet, with M. Thiers as President.

"We have reason to believe that the entrance of M. Remusat into the ministry projected by M. Thiers has been agreed to only on condition that M. de Malleville should be under secretary of state in the department of the Interior, and charged with the general police instead of Messrs. Fuenault and Dejean.

"M. Dupin went yesterday to the Tuileries. The King offered him the department of Justice. M. Dupin replied by a positive refusal. The *Univers*, a ministerial journal under the Cabinet of the 12th of May, &c., and the organ of the Catholic party, is alarmed at seeing M. Dupin in the ranks of the new ministers. It pretends that the choice of M. Dupin as Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs would be a declaration of war against the Catholics, and that the government would by this nomination run the risk of losing the ground which it has gained by its prudent and conciliator[redacted]

"It is st[redacted] audience yesterday to Marshal Soult and M. Humann."—*Globe, March 2.*

DISTURBANCE AT MADRID.

The telegraphic despatch announcing an attempted insurrection at Madrid, which was received at Paris on Saturday, probably hastened the formation of the Thiers ministry. An administrative interregnum in France, while the waters are troubled in Spain, would not at all suit the temper of our neighbours, who (very unlike ourselves) are much more upon the *qui vive* for external than internal interests.

The origin of the threatened, or attempted, disturbances which have caused the Spanish capital to be proclaimed in a state of siege, appears to have been the discontent of the *exaltado* party in the new Cortes at finding themselves more outnumbered than they reckoned upon in that assembly. The Spaniards have not sufficiently the habit of constitutional government, to think of acquiescing in a temporary check to their party. They do not sufficiently respect constitutional law to obey it, when it happens to decide against them.

It appears that on the commencement of business in the newly assembled Cortes, the "patriots" filled the galleries, and created "grave disorders in the bosom of the Cortes," by their vehement protests against the alleged conduct of the government in the late election. The party in the minority even threatened to retire to Espartero's camp; but it was not known whether that chief would encourage them and "lend his arm to shake the tree." Tranquillity was beginning to be restored in the capital; and it is probable this may pass off like so many other abortive efforts in an age which may be termed that of mountainous-murine revolutions. The violence of parties is becoming less and less powerful in Europe. And the reason is—it is found to be *fruitless*; and nations demand the fruits of good government, which are not to be gathered from the tree of faction, let it call itself by what name it please.

The colour of the new French ministry is very moderate, and partly Doctrinaire. The success of M. Thiers in his self-designation as Foreign Minister is the only very important characteristic of the new Cabinet, whose choice was rather limited as regarded the *personnel*, several of the former *Tiers parti* having joined the late ministry, and deeming it a point of honour to remain united after its downfal. The very marked value which has been attached, on all recent occasions, by the able chief of the new ministry, to the English alliance, appears to afford fresh guarantees to the peace and independence of nations. M. Dupin was offered the Ministry of Justice, and "replied by a formal refusal." M. Dupin, it is stated, has a *Doctrinaire-phobia*, and will not sit in a ministry where M. Remusat holds the Home department. Moreover M. Dupin will not sit in a Cabinet which cannot command a strong parliamentary majority, and which he does not *know* to possess the Royal confidence. We do not know what modes there are in France of giving "proofs of confidence," such as Sir Robert Peel asked for, in order to be refused, last May. But M. Dupin waiting for "strong majorities," and "proofs of confidence," is very likely to wait a while longer, in these parliamentary days.—*Ibid.*

RETIREMENTS.

The undermentioned officers have retired from the army this week:—Cornet Wildey, 3rd Light Dragoons; Ensign Atkinson, 1st Foot; Lieut.-Col. Wyndham, 27th Foot; Lieut. Roberts, 44th Foot; Ensign Smith, 1st West India Regiment.

J. Elliot, Esq., from service in the Plymouth ordinary, has taken the duties of admiral's secretary at Portsmouth, vice B. Ghimo, Esq., who acting till Mr. Elliot could join.

Veterinary-surgeons of Dragoon Regiments are ordered to receive an allowance of 6d. per mile as travelling expenses, on visiting out-ports or detachments.

When the drafts of the following corps—5th, 27th, 47th, 48th, 52nd, 59th, 60th, 70th, 74th, 76th, 87th, and 92nd (amounting to 1 267 men), shall have embarked to join their service companies, the total strength of the army in Ireland will be only 12 640 rank and file.

Major-Gen. Sir Wm. P. Carroll, K. C. H., and C. B. has returnde to Athlone, from Dublin, and resumed the command of the western district.

The following movements of the household infantry stationed in the metropolis will take place this day, it being the hals-yearly exchange of quarters:—The 1st battalion of the Coldstream Guards srom the Tower to St. John's-wood Barracks; the 1st battalion of Fusilier Guards from St. John's-wood barracks to St. George's barraeks, Charing-cross; the 2nd battalion from Portman-street barracks to the Tower: the 1st battalion of Grenadier Guards from Wellington barracks to Portman-street barracks; the 3rd battalion of Grenadier Guards from charing cross barracks to Wellington barracks, St. Jame's Park. The 2nd battalion of the 1st Regiment of Grenadier Guards and Coldstreams remain stationed in Canada, and immediately draughts from the various battalions will be made for the purpos of keeping the effective numbers of those battalions up now stationed in Canada, and also to relieve those that are invalided.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND THE RIGHT HON. J. W. CROKER.

STANDARD.—Lord John Russell had the monstrous tremerity to cite the case of Mr. Croker's pension of 1,500*l.* a-year after *twenty years'* indefatigable labour in the most laborious office under the Crown, concurrent with most onerous parliamentary duties faithfully and zealously discharged, as a precedent for the late job; and even to add, that "if asked the reason of Mr. Croker's pension, he could not guess it." There seems to be a moral *struma* in the house of Russell which inflicts an hereditary incapacity of appreciating merit and genius. Lord John's uncle, the "Leviathan" of Burke, has secured to himself an unhappy immortality, by his attempt to depreciate the claims of one man of genius; Lord John himself is resolved to emulate his uncle's fame by insulting another. The reason which Lord John cannot guess may be sound *in the law*, a reportary of reasons from which he can raraly justify his acts and, in 20 years of faithful and efficient service—a plea scarcely to be offered in behalf of any of the objects of his favour. This might be said in the case of any Admiralty secretary as long in office without incurring a reproach, as the object of the sneer of the Colonial Secretary; but justice requires to say more of such a man as Mr. Croker, one who gave to the public service, during the 20 best years of his life, the use of talents unsurpassed in the country, of talents that must have raised him to distinction, and to far higher affluece than officers and pensions offr, in any deparment of professional exertion, and gave his talents to the public service, with such unreserved devotion, that the only complaint ever alleged against him was, that "he did the whole business of the Admiralty." We say nothing of the worldly wisdom of the individual who embarks in the public service, but it is clearly the interest of the public to be served by men of first-rate intellectual powers, and if the public is to have such men it must concent to pay them, if not as much as they would obtain in professions, at least in some proportion to it. Now can Lord J. Russell guess the reason of Mr. Croker's pension? if not, we will still further help him. Mr. Croker has been among the most constant and the most efficient of the opponents of those revolutionary principles, which, if they should succeed, would probably raise the men of Mr. Croker's intellectual class to the highest station in the country, and reduce the even thd sons of dukes, if not more highly, gifted than Lord John, to a condioion in which they might not be unwilling to blacken Mr. Croker's shoes. But we forget—the Russell organs could see no merit in Edmund Burke. It was well remarked by Sir Robert Peel, that if Lord John had made his insolent attack upon Mr. Croker, during the years of opportunity that he enjoyed, while the right hon. gentleman sat in Parliament, he would probably have received such an answer as would prevent his reperting it.

Since the foregoing was written the Paris papers of saturday have arrived by express, together with letters from our correspondents in the French capital. The former are utterly destitute of news. The letter, as will be seen by the following extracts from them, contain matter of importance:—

"PARIS, FEB. 29, HALF PAST 4 O'CLOCK.

"Just at the commencement of business at the Bourse to day the following was affixed on the doors:—

"'TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCH.

"'BAYONNE, FEB. 29, 9 O'CLOCK A.M.

"'In consequence of grave disorders in the bosom of the Chamber, and of attempts at insurrection (without), Madrid has been declared in a state of siege. On the 24th the session of the Cortes was suspended.

"'At the departure of the courier Madrid was tranquil.'

"This intelligence produced considerable sensation here. The Spanish funds, the Active Debt in particular, opened at a considerable sensation here. The Spanish funds, the Active Debt in particular, opened at a considerable sensation here. The Spanish funds, the Active Debt in parricular, opened at a considerable decline, as compared with the closing price of yesterday. From 27½, to which point they descended, they rose to 28⅝, and continued to vibrate between those extremes unt the close of busiues. The concluding price was 28.

"Nothing is yet concluded about the Ministry. M. THIERS, it is believed, will be the Minister; with a Cabinet composed nearly as mentioned in my letter of yesterday."

The *Augsburg Gazette*, in and article aded "Frontiers of Turkey, February 11," states that the Ottoman empire is convulsed in nearly every portion of it. According to this article the Pashaliks of Spek and Presteria, in Upper Albania, were in full issurrection against the Ottoman Government. I was believed that this revolt was connected with the conspiracy lately discovered in Athens. On the other hand, in Bosnia and the Herzegowina a deep sensation pervaded the ancient partisans of the Janissaries residing there. The Hatti-Scheriff had failed in most places to produce the beneficial effects looked for from it.

A conspiracy had also been discovered in Servia, the object of which was to seize upon Prince MICHAEL immidiately on his return from Constantinople, to carry him to Kraigewatz, and compel him to suspend the organic statute.

The *Journal du Havre* announces, under Alexandria, 6te ult., that on the 1st full liberty of commerce (expect as regards the cotton of the current year) would be grnted by the PASHA, provided peace should be that time!

The *Augsburg Gazette* of the 25th ult. states, under the head of Vienna, the 19th, that the mission of the Brazilian Envoy (M. DEL HOSTEA), who had ostensibly arrived there only to announce the projected marriage of the Princess JANUARIA, was charged to negotiate with the Government of the Swiss cantons for a legion of Swiss soldiers for the service of the Emperor of the BRAZILS.

Avices from Barcelona of the 20th ult. state, that since supplies had been received at Solsona hostilities have been resumed with new vigour on every point. Accounts from Cellent and Girona announce that on the 15th, 16th, and 18th, the sound of cannon was heard in several directions.

The *Siecle* states that the civil list has incurred a new defeat in the famous affair of the *quitus*, and has been condemned to pay a large sum. This is a new gain for the public of more than 1,000,000f., produced by the pamphlet by M. DE CORMENIN two years since, under the title of *Trez Humbles Remonstrances*.

"P.S.—5 O'CLOCK.—Your reporter has just returned from the Chamber of Deputies with the important amouncement that the Ministry has been formed precisely as above indicated.

"The important part of your reporter's account from the Chambers is, however, that several deputes announced at the close of the sitting, that M. THIERS, on quitting the Cabinet of the KING this afternoon, declared that the Ministry of which he was to be the chief was nearly formed. MM. REMUSAT and JAUBERT, who are to form part of the new Cabinet, are stated to have confirmed this announcement. It was further said, that M. LACAVE LAPLAGNE, who, it is now believed, will be offered the Ministry of Finance, had been summoned to the Chateau, and was, in fact, engaged in a private audience with the KING. It was thought, however, that he would not accept of office, but that M. PELUT (de la Lozere) would be the new Minister for that department.

"Count JAUBERT would, it wps understood, be provisionally charged *ad interim* with two portfolios, those of Commerce and of Public Works.

Puseyism.—In the 75th Number of the "Tracts for the Times," there are Collects for Protestant use, running—"Grant, O Lord that by the deserts of Peter and Paul, we may obtain everlasting life?"—*Record.*

The Hornby Castle Estate.—We hear it stated, and believe the resort to be substantially correct, that with a view to prevent further litigation, an amicable arrangement has been made, and that an application will shortly be made to parliament for an act to confirm the rights of all parties.—*Lancaster Gazette.*

Sir Watkin W. Wynne.—The late Sir Watkin W. Wynne left a memorandum that he should (if convenient) be attended to the grave by any eight old soldiers who had served under him, and that a gratuity should be given to each, whether able to attend or not. This was done accordingly.

Longevity.—A beggar named Hurley died at Milestown, near Cloonen, on Sunday last, at the patriarchal age of 113 years; he could particularise the circumstance of, and the effects caused by, the memorable frost of the year 1739 40; he retained his mental faculties perfect until the last hour of his existence. He was, on the foregoing day, busily employed in his eleemosynary career.—*Irish Paper.*

WHIG POLICY TOWARDS CHINA.

It is doubly mortifying when the state of war into which a nation may have been plunged by the blind and stupid policy of its Government, or their agents, is made an occasion for superadding deep disgrace to grievous injury.

Every needless war is a war of wickedness in the rulers of any state, and such we fear will turn out to have been the case with this quarrel raised by the British Ministry with the Chinese empire. The accounts which have reached this country of the indiscretions committed by the gentleman who bears the title of British Commissioner at Canton, not merely to superintend the general and lawful trade between the subjects of Great Britain and those of China, but likewise, as it would appear, to carry on a trade prohibited by the laws of China, and declared by them to be contraband, as exposing its people to the effects of a wide-spreading and deadly poison,—those rash and mischievous proceedings, so far as can be judged from all the accounts received, have caused the hostile relations which actually exist between the British and Chinese Government—the naval engagements which have already taken place, the blood which has been spilt, the costly preparations which have been made in England, and are, it is understood, about to be made on a scale of great extent in India, towards enforcing what our Ministers describe to be "redress" for wrongs incurred by us, but which it is doubtful whether mankind will not regard as a fresh infliction of unprovoked injuries upon China.

The Commissioner being himself within the power of the Chinese authorities, called upon the British merchants to surrender their property in an article which they had smuggled into China, pledging the QUEEN'S Government to indemnify the smugglers—that is, to repay them the price of their contraband goods, amounting to somewhere about 2,000,000l. sterling, out of the national purse of England. This mortgage upon the revenues of the state was authorized or it was not. If authorized, it ought to have been discharged by the Government; if otherwise, it was the act of a rash and incapable functionary, who ought at once to have been dismissed from office. The pledge, however, has not been redeemed by the Government, and yet the agent has not been dismissed or discountenanced. In the first place, therefore, the merchant has been defrauded of his property, respecting which he might, for aught we know, have made terms for himself with the Chinese. In the second place, the people of England have been dishonoured by being made parties, through their Ministers, to this deception practised upon their own countrymen by a public servant of Great Britain. So much for one branch of the question—viz., that which concerns the relation between Government and subject.

But there is more behind. Was Captain Elliot justified in attacking the Chinese junks? That question cannot be determined by the result of an engagement in which we were told at first, that the British commissioner had commanded the captain of the Volage to cease firing before he had completed the enemy's destruction. It would now appear that the Volage did her best; but still the question remains—had Captain ELLIOT so much right on his side, as to justify him before God and man in making war upon a foreign nation, for no other crime that we are aware of, than the confiscation of contraband goods made prize of within its own territory?

The further question remains—whether Captain Elliot had authority from his Whig Radical masters to involve this great country in an open and formal war with China, he being a mere commercial agent in a remote part of the world!

Once more—had Captain Elliot authority from this Government—of whose confidence he seems so entirely worthy—to *blockade the ports of China*, or had he not? It is recognised by jurists that "blockade" is a right of war, and of war only—not lawfully incidental to any other international condition. It is true that Lords Melbourne and Palmerston, out of compulsory accommodation to their much esteemed French allies, and in criminal disregard of the rights as well as interests of British commerce, have unblushingly waived, to the detriment of their own country, the enforcement of this indisputable doctrine, when France put, and still holds, the better part of the vast continent of South America under strict blockade, in defiance of the law of nations!

It would be of a piece with the bastard and shabby consistency of these mean sciolists, in what concerns public law, that they should follow the false example which, to the ruin of British interests, they had suffered the French Government to establish, and should themselves, like bullies, apply against the feeble that outrage upon justice which, like cowards, they had permitted to the strong. It is in keeping with the whole genius and history of the Melbourne Cabinet, that they should first, from fear, look on while France was the oppressor of Mexico and the inhabitants of La Plata, and then plead their own connivance at their series of crimes as a defence of their consistency in the perpetration of similar outrages upon China!

But was Captain Elliot authorized by Ministers to blockade the Chinese ports, or had he no sanction for such a proceeding but his own high will and pleasure? In either case he ought to have *persisted* in this coercive measure once instituted—1st, as an official duty; 2d, as a right which he had assumed conscientiously, and in the exercise of a sound discretion. But it appears that the blockade was no sooner announced than it was abandoned; and abandoned wherefore?

Because some ten or a dozen citizens of the United States, carrying on trade with the ports of China, showed on this occasion towards England more energetic resolution to defend their own interests than the Whig-Radical Government of England had dared to evince in support of British commerce against France. Because these Republicans went to work heartily—signed a strong protest against the threatened blockade of Captain Elliot—told him that "they would not recognize his "right of blockade"—and that if "he should "attempt to carry it into effect to their injury, "or to the injury of the American shipping "and interests, it would be considered by "them and by their countrymen an infringement of their legal and just rights, it being "contrary to the laws of nations, existing "treaties, illegal, and without precedent." "And we do hereby give notice, that we shall "hold Her Britannic Majesty and her Government responsible in the fullest manner for whatever lives may be sacrificed, "and other losses that may be sustained by "American citizens, in consequence of said "blockade and sudden proceedings of Her "Majesty's officers in China; and we shall "further hold you personally and all persons "acting under your authority, responsible for "whatever lives may be lost, or injury sustained in person or property, by any American "citizen."

Now, this is the way in which nations that have pluck enough to protect themselves address those by whom they consider themselves to be injured or insulted. And what has been the consequence? Why, the blockade has been at once rescinded, and an act of vigour, or perhaps of violence—for, if not regularly at war with China, our blockade, notwithstanding our servility to France in the other hemisphere, was unjust,—an act, then, of violence was succeeded by one of abject and pitiful submission!

Now, we ask our countrymen, is this the mode in which the interests of Great Britain ought to be provided for and her national honour maintained? We ask the least sensitive of Englishmen, are these the people—this tribe of Admiralty Elliots, from Lord Minto down—who can be safely trusted by the people of England with whatever is most dear to nations? Here are follies and offences crammed into one spot, and into a single year, enough to cover with humiliation the proudest empire, and to make her name a laughing stock. But there is a packed majority of unprincipled adventurers, with the powers of the kingdom, legislative and representative, in their hands; and, until some bolt from destiny shall rive this realm to her foundations, we half despair of seeing roused in the mind of a drenched and shortsighted race of men one spark of generous patriotism, or self-forgetting devotion to their country's greatness.—*Times, March* 2.

THE INDIAN ARMY, AND THE NAVAL AND MILITARY GAZETTE.

To the Editor of the United Service Gazette.

SIR,—I perceive, by your professional contemporary's *Gazette* of the 25th ult., that he still continues to hum the tune the Scotch piper played when about to drown himself.—"The farther in the deeper;" until, as was to have been anticipated, he has gotten completely out of his depth, and literally wrecked both himself and cause upon that *ignis fatuus* to Indian adventurers, the "bale of cotton rock,"—I drop metaphor, "Relative rank" between the Queen's and Company's armies. Settle, to do him justice, he has notturned to impugn my chapter and verse exposé which appeared in the the *United Service Gazette* of the 18th ult. On the country, as would seem, he has been what is usually termed in the sporting world, "hedging;" in military phrase—masking his original position "The line, versus Royal Artillery, Engineers, or Marines," and in lieu thereof, taken up a sort of open order on skirmishing ground, more, I should imagine, with the view of covering a decent retreat, than to defend the outworks of such an untenable position, either on the score of superexcellence of European officered Native troops (his is by no means applied disparagingly of the really gallant sepoy) over their "*tattie*" *pampered* European contemporaries—or of the anomalies ever and anon growing out of the new and unhealthy system of unmilitary supercession of the Lieutenant-Colonel's grade of the Royals by those of the Company's army, illegally placed above them as Colonel Commandants, or what is still more indefensible, by official brevet; to say nothing of the more insidious novelty of purchasing out old officers (query, rice and cattle dealers, together with quill-drivers of all denominations), upon retired full-pay; they for the most part, be it understood, having previously, by means of lucrative contracts and other money-making speculations, lined their respective wallets even to repletion; while the regimental fags who subscribe to bribe the retirement of their more fortunate brothers, necessarily protract their own sojourn in that grilling climate, in the vain hope often of being ultimately enabled to spend their evening of life in their native land, upon the mere proceeds of the off-reckoning fund, without possessing what in reversion it would require to provide for beyond mediocrity, even a small family, should they be so unfortunate as to have any. But, in order that your military readers may have an opportunity of judging for themselves, allow me to subjoin an extract from your contemporary's own *critique* upon (as appears) signs himself "One of 1,200,"—

("One of 1,200") asserts, that officers are, in fact purchased out of regiments in India, who are also entitled to retiring full-pay. To a certain extent, we (of the *Naval & Military Gazette*) believe on inquiry, that it is correct, and that the Indian government have winked at it. Indeed they have done more; for a regulation formerly existed that an officer (Company's mark ye) on retirement should declare on honour, he received nothing directly or indirectly, beyond his retired full or half-pay (what would Mr. Assistant-Surgeon Hume, M. P., have said to such dicta), for so doing. This regulation was latterly rescinded by the home government, and for what purpose, we may fairly ask? It is no longer prohibited or penal to do so; and we may fairly ask what are its effects as compared with the ruinous system in H. M.'s service? Why this only, that purchase in the Company's service is from a regimental purse or subscription, to buy out an old, generally a field officer, to which all from the vacancy, &c., &c., &c. And again; when an officer in H. M.'s service now retire from a deputy-adjutant-general, or deputy-quartermaster in any of H. M.'s colonies, does "One of 1,200" suppose it is without a consideration? We have heard, on authority, at least equal to his, of the sale and purchase of the chief command of the army of India; but we should be sorry to allege it as truth.

Now, without having any wish to be professionally fastidious, or hypercritical, or in any way to identify myself with the "One of 1,200" controversy, beyond the mere abstract as set forth in the aforesaid, I could just ask any member of either service, who is at all conversant with the rules and regulations of their respective establishments, which in the name of common sense the professional critic can possibly mean, when he so boldly asserts, that a regulation formerly existed of a "declaration," upon honour, from a company's officer, that he neither received directly or indirectly anything beyond his retired full or half-pay; or that their Leadenhall-street majesties could have had anything possibly to do with the rescinding of any such regulation? What, in short, would be thought of the *sanity* of the functionaries at the Horse Guards, should they at any period, have submitted such a test to the Artillery, Engineers, or Marines, in whom neither purchase nor exchange are known under any circumstances? Why the professional writer must have suffered himself to be completely bamboozled by some wicked wag of a *Quihi* or other—or, what is even worse, some vain pretender to military knowledge, while the well-informed of both services will at once discover, that the professional commentator has merely made the very trifling mistake of substituting her Majesty's for the *Hon. John's* regulations."

Every person knows, that knows anything of the constitution of our Indian army, that a cadet goes out as covenanted servant of the East India Company, regularly indentured to serve them faithfully, for a period of at least 22 years without furlough, before he is eligible for retirement upon the full-pay of whatsoever rank he may have attained;—and in the event of his health not permitting him to serve the stipulated term, there are certain modifications which enable the invalid to retire upon half-pay, or Lord Clive's bounty, but in such case made and provided, instead of the officer's own declaration upon honour being held a sufficient voucher in Leadenhall-street, I suspect very strongly, unless he could produce something in the shape of a medical certificate, there would be on the north side of friendly to say the least of it, and that too emboldying the "absolute and indispensible necessity." of the change.

Down to 1809 this certificate was prescribed upon "honour, knowledge, and belief." When that upon oath was substituted, declaring the absolute and indispensible necessity of a change of air, &c., this substitution may have been the "rescinding" spoken of by the home government; but, be that as it may it cost an officer of a regiment to which I belonged, his life, in consequence of the regimental surgeon's conscientious scruples, as he defined it, "of setting limits to the will and power of the Almighty;"—the unavoidable delay caused by the necessity of assembling a medical committee, to give effect in such a contingency, was the means of the *sacrificed* officer's being in morning orders to proceed to sea for the recovery of his health, while his funeral party appeared in after orders of the same day.

What is or can be insinuated by deputy-adjutant and deputy quartermaster general's receiving *douceurs* for retiring, I candidly confess is altogether beyond my limited experience, and perhaps poorer comprehension; seeing, that nine times out of ten the incumbent and his successor are not merely entrestrangers to each other, but positively at the time of exchange inhabitants of different hemispheres; and with regard to the sale and purchase of an India Commander-in-Chiefship, I suspect strongly, it would require something more tangible than the "Disclosures of 1809," to establish any such profligate prostitution of Horse Guards' patronage, even under such prolific paternity as "all the talents" proved themselves—and at all events, I could not have supposed it possible, that any journalist, professing exclusively to advocate the interests and uphold the respectability of the army at large, could have shown himself so gratuitously reckless as to volunteer such a heartless obloquy upon the memory of the soldiers best friend, in the resuscitation of at most the unpsubstantiated acussations of a depraved woman and debased officer, versus the universal respect and veneration of the entire army, over which the vilely-calumniated illustrious personage alluded to had so long and so ably presided—so much so, indeed, that but one feeling, and that of unfeigned regret, seemed to pervade all ranks during the short interregnum which had company and unprincipled personal enemies had caused in the executive of H. M. forces; for, without in the remotest degree, wishing to detract one single leaf from the well-earned laurels of the immortal Wellington, either in field or cabinet, it is I conceive, not saying too much when I add, that had there been no Duke of York the chances would have been doubled against there ever having been a Duke of Wellington.

I observe, in the same editorial article, that the writer goes over the old ground about the ridiculous trash of native fatigue duty parties waiting upon European regiments; to all of which I beg leave merely to reiterate, *ad absurdum*, and in proof thereof I declare, that during a ten years tour of Indian duty I never witnessed any such sucking-turkey-like exhibition; but, on the contrary, although it was a notorious fact, that from the enervating effects of climate it was physically impossible for the English soldier to march in certain seasons, in what is termed in this country heavy marching order, and yet sustain his efficiency, the governments of both Bombay and Madras, although made perfectly aware of that circumstance, positively refused to be at the expense of carriage, and the consequence was that the soldiers, from *esprit de corps* alone, had to subscribe and pay for the carriage of their knapsacks, &c., it having been given out in orders and read on three several parades, that their being permitted to do so was to be considered as an indulgence. This battalion, on its return to cantonments, lost 453 men, women, and children, and ten officers, in a period of little more than ten months, and ultimately returned to the presidency with one major, one Lieutenant, and 47 men fit for duty out of 750 on paper. So much for nursing European soldiers as a saving to government.

Your contemporary, I perceive, also makes some rather *interrorem*, though sufficiently expressive, allusions to certain events when the sepoy has been said to have shown more pluck than the English soldier—hints something about living in glass houses—and in short, personifies old age to the very letter, by rendering good advice when he has it no longer in his power to set a bad example; and now very boldly cries "wake hawks" to the Queen's officers who may dare to impugn his theorem on the subject of Asiatic valour, by threatening to gibbet some delinquent royal regiments for misbehaviour before an Asiatic enemy. Now, as I have ever eschewed either innuendo or ambiguity, I shall proceed at once to bell the cat, and rid the royal army of this Indian nightmare, that it would seem must have eclipsed its sum of glory for upwards of half a century. Know then, that no Queen's regiment can be long in India without being informed, in the most delicate manner possible, that one of H. M. regiments (101st.) gave way, and eventually ran from the lines at Cuddalore;—as also, that that was the more extraordinary, as it was understood the regiment had been raised of well tried men (of course it is expected you should laugh at the pun), which goes to prove, if it proves anything but bad discipline, that trial at the Old Bailey and against the bayonets of an enemy, are very different matters, though termin tinglalike, when practicable, in running away; and according to the same traditonal authority, the 76th regiment is said to have disobeyed an order to advance a third time against an impracticable breach at Bhurtpore, they having been repulsed in two successive attempts, and actually reduced to one-fifth of their effective strength, when, as we are told, the 15th Bengal Native Infantry moved to its instead, and were nearly annihilated—further deponent sayeth not. I remain, Sir,

COLABA.

P. S.—Being an utter stranger to "One of 1,200" I cannot of course answer for what he may suppose or think of such a calumnious insinuation but, as the advocate of fair play and evenhanded justice, I have no hesitation in pronouncing it a gross and libelous aspersion upon the whole army, a mere unmilitary packman-like idea on mercantile speculation, I never either heard of or read of; and I may be permitted to add, that none but a person familiar with such conduct would ever have attributed it to others, and that evidently upon sheer analogy.—*United Service Gazette.*

Early Lambs.—Sunday week a ewe, belonging to Mr. Hodges, Multon, brought forth two fine tup lambs, doing well.

Ticks in Sheep.—A correspondent of the *Mark Lane Express* recommends for the destruction of ticks in sheep the animal oil usually produced from the distillation of bones, and which can be purchased for a mere trifle. A very small quantity applied to each sheep will be found completely efficacious, as, in addition to the repugnance which insects have for oil, this oil possesses a most disagreeable odour. He also states, if a small quantity of this oil were mixed with a large quantity of manure, and spread over ground sown for turnips, it would effectually keep off the fly, that determined enemy to the young turnip plant.

Melancholy statements are given of the ravages caused in the flocks in the neighbourhood of Salisbury by the unprecedented wetness of the season. The loss sustained by Mr. Waters, of Stratford, adjoining that city, is said to amount to about 260 lambs, and many ewes; at New Court Farm, between Salisbury and Downton, Mr. Maton the occupier, has lost 120 lambs, and several other flocks in the neighbourhood have suffered after the same rate.

Destruction of Sheep by Dogs.—Mr. Lang, of Stasland Farm, North Petherton, has had seven sheep killed and many severely mangled; Mr. Badcock, of Churchill Farm, has also had three killed, and five wounded, and Mr. Hodges of West Newton Farm, lost one. Nearly twenty dogs, more or less suspected of the mischievous propensity which has occasioned this serious loss to the farmers, have been destroyed, and a sharp look out is maintained in respect to others which have been seen lurking about in the vicinities of the respective flocks. The owners of these dogs should either kill them at once, or by not confining them, give those who are on the watch the opportunity of shooting them the first moment they may be discovered in the act of indulging their savage habits. To confine dogs in the hope of reclaiming them from sanguinary practices is altogether futile, and any favouritism towards an animal should not be permitted to prevail over a just regard for the security of a neighbour's property.—*Taunton Courier.*

Another Presbytery is at issue with the General Assembly, that of St. Andrew's which has moderated a call to the parish of Kemback, without testing the opinions of the parishioners by the veto.

During the last fortnight a disease has been prevalent among the horses about Stourbridge, and which has baffled the skill of the veterinary surgeons of the town and neighbourhood. Many very valuable horses have died in consequence.

ORIGIN OF THE TERM "KICKING, THE BUCKET."

Nights on the Forecastle.

BY EDWARD HOWARD, AUTHOR OF "RATTLING THE REEFER," "JACK ASHORE," &c., &c.

Of all the versatile powers possessed by the human mind, perhaps its faculty of adaptation is the most wonderful. This quality is elucidated and improved more in the masses than in the individual. The soul expands and contracts with circumstances, and though the vast fields of the firmament be not too extensive for it, it will contrive to find elbow-room in a nutshell. Wherever the body will live, there the divine spark will first learn to endure, then to investigate, and, ultimately, to enjoy.

It is owing to this mental elasticity that, when the black-winged demon of the plague hovers over the devoted city, and mingles his mephitic breath with the gentle murmurings of the lover, with the fond blessings of the father, and poisons, with a terrible impartiality, the sources of existence of the young and old, the strong and the weak, the worthy and the wicked, men, when they have recovered from their first astonishment and its consequent dismay, despise the terrors around them, and laughing at the fate that may the next moment be theirs, they learn to live as if the presence of pestilence was nothing but the natural order of things, to think that the proximity of death is the most forcible of all reasons for the hilarity of life, and that they should indemnify themselves for the shortness of its duration by the number and the intensity of the pleasures that they can thrust into it. Boccacio was strictly natural when he made the time of his voluptuous tales that of terror, sickness, and of death.

In the year of our Lord 1811 there raged a peculiar and aggravated epedemic throughout the West Indies. It fell with an equal mortality on the army and the navy, had become formidable to the located whites, and had not altogether spared the coloured inhabitants of those beautiful islands. The shafts of the pestilence were infinitely more fatal than the conflicting bayonet or the hostile shot; and they destroyed so ignominiously! Bitter was the moan, and still more bitter was it to hear it; when the young and the lion-hearted would, in their last moments, utter the futile wish that they had died in battle.

In this awful conjuncture most of His Majesty's vessels of war kept, as much as it was possible to do, the open sea. This precaution, though doubtlessly serviceable, was most preventative, and, whenever one man-of-war hove within view of another, the scrutinizing glasses were first turned to observe the ensign and pennant were only hoisted half-mast-high, and the first question asked when they came within hail, was to ascertain the number of the sick and dead.

In this fatal season the Aurelia, a long, low, and wet frigate, of the first class, had suffered more than any other man-of-war upon the station. This was imputed to her having conveyed an immense number of French soldiers, as prisoners, from one of the islands lately captured by the British, to Jamaica. These men, with their foreign nastinesses and abominations, were all but stowed in bulk on the lower decks, which they had so impregnated with disease, that repeated fumigations, and long stretches to the northward, could not eradicate the unhealthy taint. The Aurelia almost realized the Eastern tale of the Caravanseray—her officers and her men were but transient guests—she was a mere halting-place for them—their last stage at which they put up on their journey to their grave of the deep waters.

Well, bad as were these things, there were always hands enough on board to work the ship, to attend the sick, to bury the dead, and to welcome the new victims, that fresh drafts from England, or impressment, were continually adding to her crew, which, however, never could reach, by far, to its full complement.

Some of the old hands—a few—did not die. It was out of the nature of things to suppose it possible. Weather-beaten, wiry-sinewed, dry durabilities—with frames that had gone through the fire, and had been tried in the furnace of fever thrice seven times, they were asbestos-skinned animals that defied heat, and who, at last, would only yield to a superabundance of moisture. It was these who preserved, in some manner, the identity of the ship's company. They formed the groundwork of the old coat, upon which the new pieces were sewed, and to them the integrity of the crew was owing, for while they were, it could not be asserted that the crew had been changed.

The Aurelia "walked the waters like a thing of life." The quotation is a brilliant mockery. She was a plauge-spot upon the bosom of the beautiful Caribbean Sea—a majestic pest-house in awful motion. More justly might she have been compared to a vast hearse—and well did her long black hull shadow forth that dismal pageant of death, whilst, looking through the dark mists of morality, her proud and swelling sails seemed to bend and nod in all the grandeur of funeral plumes. The Aurelia had her train also, the ready *sharks* were always in her wake—and the custom is faithfully followed at the burials on shore.

Upon the principles that I have already laid down, was not this a time for the Aurelians to be gay? "Messmates, hearken to the song to-night—for to-morrow your ear may cold: listen, my friends, this hour to my tale, for the next my tongue may be parched up with fever, and my brain reeling in madness." The argument was found good, the seamen listened and were amused. May the same good fortune happen to my "gentle readers."

NIGHT THE FIRST.

It was in the middle of the first watch, that is, to vulgar and unseamanly apprehensions, ten o'clock, on a beautiful and cloudless night, that the Aurelia was dallying with the little ripple made by a succession of cat's-paws that wantoned over the face of the dark blue waters. The moon looked down with the fixed and cold gaze of majesty upon the world beneath her, whilst her image danced merrily and mockingly, in brilliant and broken fragments, in the crisped waves. Above, on the waters below, and all around, a feeling of deep and consoling peace seemed to prevail.

The ship was on a wind, slipping gently along under double-reefed topsails, top-gallant-sails, first jib, and spanker. The courses were up, and would have been unserviceable, had they been set. The gentle breeze, at intervals only, was able to distend the capacious topsails, which ever and anon swelled boldly forth, and then again flapped back listlessly to the mast, like the boasting speech of a coward, suddenly checked by the sight of danger. The top-gallant-sails continued filled as gracefully as the white-draperied busts of young beauty. So solemnly and quietly did the gallant frigate bear herself in her majestic motion, that no angry foam was seen beneath her bows; the parted waves kissed her noiselessly, and each particular undulation furnished for her, as she passed, a fairly and phosphoric light, that duteously attended upon her from stem to stern, and vanished only in the little playful whirlpools that dashed under her counter. But the gleam of light was large, flickering, and troubled, that followed her in her long wake; and these heatless fires there seemed to have assumed a more ghastly and witchlike nature. In the midst of these phantom sparks wallowed the monster sharks, and the sycophant pilot-fish. They scented their prey; and these living tombs for the fated ones were regarded at once with dread and abhorrence by the superstitious seamen. As an Eastern despot walked forth, so proceeded the Aurelia, attended by her ministers of death.

The quiet and tranquillity abroad was imitated on board. Orders were given, and strictly enforced, that the duty of the ship should be carried on as silently as possible, so that no creaking of blocks, and knocking of ropes upon the deck, should jar upon the painfully sensitive ears of the sick and the dying. The words of command were given in a hushed tone, and the necessary evolutions produced more by signals and gestures than by voice.

There was but little life on the quarter-deck. The lieutenant of the watch paced his walk slowly and thoughtfully; the men hung languidly on the wheel; the quartermaster drooped over the weather hammocknettings; and the two midshipmen were in their usual station—that is, just where they ought not to have been. The foremast-men of the watch were, a few of them, sleeping on the booms; whilst the rest, with the exception of the look-outs, were assembled on the forecastle, and huddled together round the *forebits*.

All of this group were light-hearted and merry, or affected to be so. However, with the tact of good feeling, their mirth was subdued, and their conversation carried on with voices not only attempered to the quiet of the scene, but also to the solemn situation of peril in which they all were, and to the state of their many suffering shipmates. Still, the joke went its round, the tale was approved and laughed at, and the ditty dull and critically commented upon.

The boatswain and the gunner sate aristocratically apart, yet they did not disdain to join in the conversation, and to benefit their hearers by advice, or reprove them with salt-water criticism. The two midshipmen had forsaken their posts, and had placed themselves on the butt-ends of the booms felicitously for hearing, and there they had taken up their position in search of their principal element—fun. They were two blithe lads, recently from England, rosy-cheeked, and in high health. Their mothers would have trembled for the [redacted] in dreams, placed upon the roof of what was really a pest-house, whilst the heated air came up noxiously through the hatchway underneath them, heavy, steaming, and contaminated with the taint of death.

John Gibson, the second captain of the forecastle, had just finished a dolefully humorous tale that was wound up by the land-crabs devouring the dead bodies within the palisades at Port Royal. The narration was dreadfully *à propos*, and, just as it was ended, the breeze died away, the sails drooped heavily from the yards, and the stillness became so profound, that the moanings from the sick-bay, on the deck beneath them, were distinctly heard. The voice that cried for water was recognised, and the low soothing tones of the surgeon became painfully audible. All felt the heavy, spirit-damping influence of the moment. No comment was offered on the story, no song volunteered, no mirth simulated. Each looked upon the other for the words that he himself felt too low of heart to utter. In the midst of this awe, strains of the sweetest harmony came gently through the air from abaft. They were rich and solemn; and though not loud, they seemed to the ears of those assembled round the forebits, to fill all creation. Though the effect on the hearers was miraculous, there was no miracle in the matter. The fact was merely that the captain was playing in his after cabin, with the window open, an anthem on the flute, of which instrument he was a perfect master. The rich melody hung for a space about the vessel, and then, with a low tremulous, dying fall, left every thing on deck in a barren silence; and the next moment the loud death-rattle was heard in the throat of the newest victim to the epidemic.

Every one was frozen into silence.

Then immediately the pale attendant upon the dying thrust his sickly and cadaverous features for a moment amidst the group, and said, with a voice that sounded like the chuckle of a demon, "John Robinson has just kicked the bucket," and immediately disappeared, as a ghost vanishes in the tomb-like obscurity below.

At length three or four, more stubborn-hearted than the rest, struck up with the chorus, always in subdued voices,

He's gone, what a hearty good fellow!

"Well," said Mr. Pipecall, the boatswain, cheerily, "he's gone! and what then? He'll never more be six on four, boys; his last middle watch is piped down—he's happy! he's stowed away snug till the last day, like many a better, and many a worse fellow. He's dead!"

"If you please, Mr. Pipecal," said the youngest of the midshipmen, "are you quite sure the sailor is dead? The doctor's servant only said that he had '*kicked a bucket.*'"

A genuine, although a quiet laugh followed this display of simplicity. After this had subsided, the boatswain took pity on the younker's ignorance, called him "greenhorn," told him he "was fresh caught," and then condescended to enlighten him upon the subject.

But the young gentleman, the Hon. Mr. Elston, was not so easily satisfied, and wished to know what analogy there was between death and the kicking of buckets.

"There needn't no allagays or fiddle-faddlejays about it, when they means one and the same thing," said the boatswain.

"That I deny," said Mr. Elston. "There! I have kicked a bucket, and I am not dead yet."

In demonstrating this proposition, the middy has sent a bucket, not a canvas, but one of the fire ones, from the boom, upon the pate of the boatwain, who was seated a good deal below him.

"But you would make me dead—you—you undersized imp."

"If you can, when dead, kick a bucket, then," said young Elston laughing, "I will beg your pardon, and remain satisfied."

"But I shan't," said Mr. Pipecall, searching for bumps.

"I understands it as this here," said a foretopman; "the Hon. Mr. Elston wishes to know what has riz the saying about *kicking the bucket* being all as a man's being stone dead."

"The very thing. Does any one of you know?" was the reply.

There was a consultation of whisperings, but all confessed ignorance, and then they pronounced without a dissentient voice, that it was a matter totally beneath them, and were about to change the subject, when an old hand of the Aurelia, a shrivelled-up applejohn of a forecastle-man, with a husky laugh and sneer, told them all that they were no better than a set of babes in the wood, and tauntingly asked where they had all been brought up. He knew, if he chose to tell; but it was a yarn worth three glasses of grog at least.

This hint was not lost upon the two midshipmen. The reward was freely promised, and the seamen, in various attitudes, settled themselves about the forebits, in order to be comfortable and criticize. Lugging forth from their place, the jib-halyards, and making with the coil of rope an easy hollow seat, old Timothy placed himself in an approved narrative position, and thus commenced the story of

NOSEY JOLLYNOSE, THE FIRST MAN WHO KICKED HIS BUCKET.

"Now I'd have ye to know, messmates, that there was a bottlesnouted sample of varmint, a whister, on board of the wall-sided Old Glory, a sneak, a skulker. Now, d'ye see, this here Nosey Jollynose——"

"Pall there, Tim, you're suffligating us, old body,—that there couldn't a been his nat'ral name," said one of the listeners.

"Right there, my hearty, and purser's name it was sure enough. What was the animal's name in the ship's books, blessed if I know,—but I'll take my davit that he was chalked down in the Watch and Quarter Bill, Nosey Jollynose, and on the division-list when they called him by some outlandish jaw-breaking sound, the young middy, after making a mess of trying to spell it, always ended with a 'lying ass' Nosey."

"What!" said Mr. Pipecall, the boatswain, grimly in look and sternly in voice, "do you mean to humbug us that ere fashion?—tell that to the marines—in the mustering at divisions every one is on their P's and Q's."

"That was the reason that he could not make out the other letters of the man's name," said the young Honourable; "he stuck fast at his P's and Q's."

"No, it warn't that there either—for the middies of the Glory were crack fellows' lunarians all—could read a sign-board in Greek, and knew the Hebrew for lobscouse, I can tell ye, shipmates; p'raps I'm a point or two out of my course, but the younker whenever he came to that fellow's name, after making a noise in his throat like a pig in historical fits, always brought up with a 'lying ass Nosey,' or 'alien ass'"

"It must have been *alias* Nosey, no doubt," said the elder midshipman, with a very superior and dogmatical look.

"If you please, sir, may I make so bold as to ax ye what is the real meaning of that word?" said Timothy, tugging at his forelock.

"Oh! to be sure," said the middy carelessly, "my man; it is merely the Latin for 'purser's name.'"

"No, no," said the young Honourable, with all the Eton Grammar rushing into this mouth; "no, no, I positively deny that, Herbert? '*alias*' does not mean a 'purser's name.'"

"I say it does, younker," said the oldster loftily.

"Well then, if it does," replied his opponent, making himself up promptly and pertly for argument, "let me know whether the word is masculine, feminine, or neuter, and be so good as to decline it."

"*I decline it!*" answered Mr. Herbert, coldly and superciliously.

"Timothy Tug, spin your yarn."

The men had been very much amused with this right learned discussion, and we are sorry that it had been so abruptly terminated by the hauteur of the oldster.

"Well, my hearties," exclaimed Tim, "but little good did the Old Glory get out of Nosey, and but a small matter of work had His Majesty for his lots of beef and pork, to say nothing of the peas, that this long bulky-beaked spooney stowed away. If he tailed on to the topsail halyard, a mouse could have pulled against him, and the only thing that he was handy at was a blowing his enormous beak with his fingers, and filching every messes' grog, not only fore and aft but amidships too, my boes—didn't he get kicked, and cuffed and started neither? But the fellow's hide got used to it, and it was no manner of use in the varsal world."

"I should like to have tried, though," said the boatswain, passing his hand with a gusto down his rattan, and fingering with pleasure for a moment, the well wolded end? "I should like to have tried," he repeated with a sigh of sweet reminiscences.

"Now it was very clearly dissarnable that Nosey would never make his fortin either by war or navigation, for he had no relish whatsumdever for fighting, and had as much idea of shindying aloft as a Tortugal turtle, but he made his fortin however, and that precious soon, and what by, my boes?"

The listeners were all blessed if they could tell. Then the story-teller would have it that they must guess, and they guessed, but their guesses were as wide of the mark as any pistol-shot that a modern duellist could have wished, or the seconds have arranged for.

After a little teasing, Timothy sat upright, tossed his chin impertinently at the moon; puffed up his cheeks with all the air that he could collect in his old lungs, and then blew it forth in emphatically enunciating the word "*Love!*" and that soft, that beautiful word, was repeated in all manner of tones, but the incredulous modulation seemed to predominate.

"Let us hear a little more about the man and his nose," said the gunner, now chiming in for the first time. The gunner was a reserved, silent man, and, in his own opinion, an abstruse reasoner, and a profound mathematician; all which did not prevent him being considered the greatest bore in the ship, the pretensions of the sixty-eight pounder cannonade notwithstanding.

"The man," resumed Tim, "was a lolloping, lobse-built craft, near six feet high, and as lazy as a Malton soldier. He was a coward, and mightily given to pipe his eye, a glutton, and no garbage was dirty enough to come amiss. A thief, as I told ye afore. I thinks as how he was a mortal liar, but I aren't so sure o' that, as no one ever spoke to him but to tell him to get out of the way. His face was broad and blotched, and his nose was not nat'ral, something the size of a powderhorn, and studded over with carbuncles that seemed to have inside of them small furnaces to heat shots red-hot with. Now, this chap, who'd let the least boy in the ship kick him afloat, the moment he got ashore, he rigged his arms a-kimbo, and the King's highway warn't wide enough for him. He come it strong, he did, as the purser's plug in these here melt-your-heart latitudes. And if you had seen the sails the lubber bent, eyes! but he would a made you stare like Polyinfamous's (Polyphemus) everlasting one ogle. I must say this for the brute, he had a fine nat'ral crop of hair; and the tiller that he stuck on his nose, was as long as a handspike, and a great deal thicker. Those were days for your real sailor-like pig-tails. Nothing to be seen like them now-a-days, in these falling-off times."

"Do you mean that the times or the tails are falling off?" asked the young reefer.

"Both sir, both. In Duncan's time!—well, well, neither the men nor their tails are what they were then. But I isn't going for to go to justify Nosey; for, not content with starving his tail round with waxended tape, from root to tuft, he would clap a bow o' blue ribbon on the end on't, and which I hold to be an abomination; but it took with the gals, it did. Shipmates, to cut it short, when Nosey was titivated to the nines ashore, he made just sich a sort of a tarras, mayhap, ye may a seed drawn on a twelf-cake ticket, or as they puts in the play-acting, to gammon the land-lubbers with. He was always seen swaggering along with a bludgeon, and swore most rumbustiously—that is, messmates, ashore; on board, as I told ye, he was as mild as cabbage-water, only a great deal nastier. Well, it so happened that Mrs. Bladderbog, the large 'oman, a widow, who kept the Jolly Sailors, in Harpstring-alley, down at the back of the dock-yard-wall at Portmouth, took a fancy to this blustering Dutch lump of rottenness, in spite of his hideous nose, and being alone 'oman, as she said, she could not let Nosey alone till she had married the beggar, and so she found a substitute for him, (glad enough the Glories were, for that matter.) So they went to church as fine as dukes and duchesses, and emperors and emperoresses, and even as popes and popesses, for the news of the shindy that the wedding made, turned Point upside down, set all Sally-port agog, made a noise all over Gosport, and was talked about as far off as Chichester. But the proof of the pudding is the eating thereof, as it is put down somewhere in John Hamilton Moore; and a blaze-up marriage don't make a married couple happy; all is not gold that glitters; it is not the finest looking craft that sails the fastest; under the smoothest water there may be the sharpest rocks; says King Solo non——"

"Hip! ho-hoy!—'vast heaving!" cried out the boatswain; "this is twice laid wisdom, with a vengeance. Who the dickens, Tim, is going to listen to this long yarn, spurn out of old saws and sayings, older than Adam, and as musty as the last biscuit in the bread-room? Get on with your story, and be blowed to ye!"

"Well! wasn't there a rumpus shortly after Nosey was spliced! In the first place, nobody could, would, or did call the lady by the name she was married in; but it was nothing else but 'Mistress Nosey' here, 'Mistress Nosey' there. 'A pot o' swipes, Mistress Nosey,' says one, 'A raw claw o' rum, Dame Nosey,' says t'other. It was no use her airs, and her turning up her own decent nose at the callers; they called on 'till she was fairly worried out, and swore a good round Wapping oath, that Nosey Jollynose and his nose was altogether a vexation and a deception; and before they had been spliced three days, she beat her husband soundly, and broke the bridge of his very remarkable couch. Then the shabby nature of the beast was seen: instead of standing up to her like a man, he began to snivel and pipe his eye; and all the sneak could do was to threaten that he'd go and hang himself. This startled her a little at first; but that soon wore off, and there being in the cable of her disposition a good strand of fun and drollery, she became all consenting, and promised to assist him in the tucking up all that laid in her power. And so, my bonny bees, this was the way on't:—She'd whack Nosey—'I'll hang myself,' say he: 'Do my dear!' says she. That was the only time she called him my dear. So down to the cellar they'd both go, she all compliance. Well, she'd help him to tie the rope on the beam and round his cur-like neck, he vowing and swearing all the time he'd do it, and haunt her afterwards—standing all this while upon a bucket. 'Now,' says she, 'if you've the courage of a man, you've only to *kick the bucket*. I would do it myself for you with all the pleasure in life, only I'm afraid of the crowner's quest; and you're not worth getting in trouble for.' When all was ready, she would axe him very tenderly if she should take away the light. Sometimes he'd say 'Yes,' sometimes 'No;' but it always ended by the cur sneaking up again for his bub and grub, and to be whacked in due course. This here rig was soon known all over the fleet. 'How's your old man, Mistress Nosey?' they would say—though for the matter of that, he was much younger than she. 'Not *kicked the bucket yet*,' sorrowfully would she shake her noddle and say. However one day, a set of us old Glories goes and finds her in her widow's weeds again. Before we could get the first word in, 'He's *kicked the bucket at last*,' says she: and so, ye know——"

"All the starboard watch, ho-hoy!"

This cut short all Tim's moralizing. It was eight bells—the first watch was over—and in the

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silent and decorous manner fitting for a ship under the infliction of general sickness, the look-outs were relieved, and all the larboard watch went and turned into their hammocks, no one being allowed to expose himself to the dews of the night by sleeping on deck, when it was his watch below.—*United Service Journal for February.*

CAPTURE OF SIR SIDNEY SMITH BY THE FRENCH IN 1796.

BY A TOURIST IN NORMANDY.

The following narrative is compiled from memoirs in the possession of a literary society at Havre, communicated by two eye-witnesses, Frissard, *ingénieur en chef*, and Thomas, a tradesman: the facts are perfectly authenticated. I know of no historical work that contains them, and I am pretty sure that the events has never yet been related with the details here given.

The cheers and the clatter of glasses which followed a toast given by one of the guests of the brave commodore, Sir William Sidney Smith, had just subsided. "If," said the Commodore, "I had not occasionally the pleasure to entertain the Captains of neutral vessels, and to drive away *ennui* by taking a glass of punch with them, it would be impossible to endure this inactive warfare, this chase, unaccompanied with danger, after a few wretched coasters. To all your healths, gentlemen!' Again the glasses rattled.

"To the gallant conqueror of *la Révolutionnaire* frigate!" cried a grey-headed Swedish Captain, who, at the table of the British Commodore, forgot that he had been prevented from running into Havre with a cargo of timber, because timber had been construed as coming under the vague article of "munitions of war," and the introduction of it prohibited even in neutrals.

This health having been cordially drunk by the company, Sir Sidney said, "Ah! yes; those are times that I love to think of. Now circumstances are totally altered, and we are glad when we can occasionally pick up a too-daring privateer. I am fond of the sea, and of war, and I confess that I like dearly to be pitted against the French, for they are brave as lions; and, if they were equal to us in ships, it would be a high treat to measure our strength with them; but the kind of warfare to which we are now confined is tedious beyond endurance."

"And so," rejoined the Swedish captain, "you strive now and then to break its monotony by some little adventure or other. Do you still recollect how, one day, in Brest, I tapped the plain Norman on the shoulder and whispered in his ear, 'Good day, Sir William? At first the Norman would not know me; but as, from having been at school in Caen, he still spoke the language of the country fluently, he replied in the Caen dialect, 'What do you mean? I do not know you!' And it was not till I asked him, in Swedish, whether he did not remember Perthes, the steersman, who had fought with him in many a battle against the Russians, that he gave me his hand, and said, 'Silence, my friend, till we meet again;' and away he went."

"Indeed," replied Smith, "though I could place full reliance on the goodness of your heart, yet I dreaded some indiscretion, and had no mind to be hanged for a spy."

Thus passed the hours in cheerful converse on the 18th of June, 1796, on board the English frigate Diamond, cruising before Havre. At length the copious libations of wine and punch caused the cabin to appear too confined, and the whole party rose and went upon deck. The beautiful sight presented by the setting sun in the open sea passed unheeded by the seamen who were accustomed to it. The company divided into groups, and the liveliest was that formed by the Commodore, a Lieutenant of Marines named Bromley, the Swede, and two or three other Captains of neutrals. The Swede related some of the most daring feats performed by Smith, while opposed under the Swedish flag to the Russians; and the Commodore, on his part, told how Perthes, with two sailors, attempted one night to set fire to a Russian brig, and had a hair-breath escape from being blown up along with his barrel of powder.

While they were thus chatting by the side of the frigate, a French privateer was seen leisurely sailing alongshore under cover of the batteries erected on the beach, and casting anchor near the north pier of Havre. "Those are the enemies that we have now to fight," said Smith, in a half-contemptuous tone, pointing to the privateer.

"And yet," replied the Swede, "you are glad enough when you can catch even such a one."

"Why, yes," rejoined Smith; "because it is a pastime for us."

"And because," continued the Swede, "it is just as difficult for a lion to overtake a hare as an elephant."

"They are not exactly hares," observed Lieutenant Bromley; "and British seamen must confess that even the smallest French privateer gives them trouble enough, and defends herself while she has a charge of powder left."

"The comparison was not meant literally," replied the Swedish captain. "I know the French, and am ready to do them justice. Besides, I am right glad that the privateers do give you so much trouble, for I was long a privateer myself, and I never was afraid either of brig or frigate."

"Captain," exclaimed a young naval Lieutenant of the Diamond, "you had then to do with the Russians, and not with the lads of Old England, or you would not have been so bold."

"Just as bold as you privateer that lies before us, and runs out and in without ever asking your permission, gentlemen. What can you do to her?"

"Fetch her out, without asking permission of the garrison and the batteries of Havre," sharply replied the Commodore, whose natural courage was not diminished by the wine he had taken.

"I should like to see that," rejoined the *ci-devant* privateer.

"And that gratification you shall have," said Smith. "I will bet you a dinner that she is ours by to-morrow morning."

The Swede accepted the challenge, the parties shood hands, and the wager was clenched.

Meanwhile the sun had set, and the darkness of night covered the sea. The party returned to the cabin, and many a glass was yet drained amidst jovial conversation and loud laughter. At length, about midnight, the company broke up. The boats of the different Captains pushed off one after another, and when the Swede had descended from the frigate into his, he cried out in a satirical tone, "Farewell Sir William, to-morrow you will stand treat on account of the privateer; so farewell, Commodore, till to-morrow." The strokes of the oar were intermingled with the concluding words.

No sooner had the last boat belonging to the guests quitted the Diamond than the whole scene was changed. At the beck of the Commodore the boatswain piped all hands, and awoke the seamen, who had already retired to rest. The *élite* of the Diamond's crew were ordered to hoist out the boats, while others fastened pieces of sail-cloth about the oars; and before half an hour had elapsed, before the last of the party had reached their vessels, Sir Sidney leaped into his long-boat and pushed off from the frigate.

The seamen rowed with the utmost caution, and the utmost caution was requisite, for the least noise would have caused fifty or more guns to be pointed at the Commodore's boats, and have at least frustrated his plan. Unperceived and unmolested they reached the privateer; in the next moment the British tars had climbed her side and closed the hatches upon her crew, who were fast asleep below, confiding in the protection of the guns on shore. The privateers were prisoners, the vessel was taken, and the wager won. Smith sent back the boats, and, with a few seamen and Lieutenant Bromley, who, as a particular friend of the Commodore's, always made one in his daring adventures, remained on board the privateer, to carry her at flood-tide to the English station. As the boats pushed off, Smith, in an under-tone, said to one of the men in them, "John, go to the Swede, and tell him to make out his bill of fare."

Till flood-tide it would be two full hours. Meanwhile the punch and wine, of which they had partaken so freely, weighed down the eyelids of the English, and they were soon as fast asleep as their prisoners.

A French seaman, who had the watch upon deck, had quietly laid himself down among the cables, and fallen asleep there: he did not wake up till the vessel was in possession of the English. It was now too late to make any resistance, and at first he knew not what better to do than to lie snug and watch what should happen. But when the English were as sound asleep as he had been on their arrival, when their snoring intimated that there was nothing to fear from them, he crept, at the commencement of flood-tide, out of his hiding-place and cut the cable. He knew that the rising flood, which sets up the Seine, would carry the vessel up the river; that it would be difficult, if not impossible, for the English, ignorant of the navigation, to escape without a pilot; and that the garrison of Havre would conclude, from the unsteady motion of the vessel, that something extraordinary had happened. As he had anticipated, so it fell out. The flood drifted the privateer up the Seine, and, when it became light, the seamen keeping watch on the shore soon discovered what was the matter. In a moment the French boats were out, and before the English were thoroughly awake, before they knew what had occurred, the privateer was surrounded by them. Sir Sidney, perceiving at once that resistance was out of the question, was obliged to deliver his sword to Captain Leloup, the commandant of the boats. If Captain Perthes had received his message before daybreak, the reckoning was this time made without the host, Smith had lost the wager, and it is a question whether the two seamen ever met again to settle the account.

The subsequent life and adventures of Admiral Sir Sidney Smith are well known. Every one knows how he was released from captivity by a more successful stratagem, since several of his friends, disguised as officers of the Parisian staff, carried an order to the gaoler of the Temple to deliver Sidney to them; and how he soon afterwards influenced the fortunes of Buonaparte by his defence of St. Jean d'Acre.

The following circumstance also is known, and I merely call it to mind here because it is connected with Smith's capture and captivity. Lieutenant Bromley was one of those who were taken with him. At Havre Smith declared that Bromley was his valet. Bromley himself played his part extremely well, and so much the better as he could not speak a word of French. Both were conveyed from Havre to Rouen, from Rouen to Paris, and in Paris from one prison to another, till they at last escaped in the manner above stated from the Temple. An old naval officer residing in Havre, whom I know, met both of them again in Egypt. How astonished was he, one day, when a person addressed him in the best French, and asked if he remembered the valet? His surprise had a two-fold cause: in the first place, Smith's *ci-devant* valet was now Colonel; and, in the next, the pronunciation of the downright Englishman, who could not speak a syllable of French, as valet, was as purely French as though he had been born and bred in Paris. The prison had wrought a miracle, and the miracle consisted in this, that Lieutenant Bromley the valet, the downright Englishman, was a young French emigrant, whose real name was De Tromelin, and who had thus saved his head by denying, his mother-tongue.—*United Service Journal for February,*

CHINA.

There is one portion of the Chinese soldiery which is raised from the body of the people at large; but the number so raised, is seldom at its full complement, the necessities of the Mandarine or Judge, frequently requiring that a certain number of soldiers should be discharged, for the purpose of turning their pay to account. Part of the army is composed of men, who inherit the profession by descent; their numbers are well kept up, and they live like brethren together, though they do not constitute a very efficient force; for discipline is lax among them, and if they desire to be away, they have no difficulty in finding a substitute for a mere trifle. An old man or cripple continues to receive his pay, if either his family or himself are in necessitous circumstances; and on the same grounds, pay is allowed to a widow's child, if the family belong by descent to the military profession. A soldiery thus constituted, would cut a sorry figure on an European parade; and its inefficiency is so sorely felt by the Chinese government, that their only resource, in any extreme emergency, is a levy of the whole population *en masse*. Yet there are certain advantages attendant even upon this constitution of the national forces; desertions are rare, and when they occur, another member of the family makes the void good. If ordered upon field service, an aged or infirm soldier is always replaced by his son or nephew, and in default of either, a daughter or niece is married to a male of some other military family, by which means the pay is prevented from becoming forfeited. In fact this pay, together with the ration of rice or grain, and a plot of cultivable ground, form the family property: small as it is, it is comparatively large for a country where so many myriads perish from hunger. The soldier provides for his own household, and is the object of their special care; he hires himself out, or exercises some handicraft, or carries on some retail dealings on his own account; so that he keeps his family pretty even with the world. No class can be more devoted to their government than these soldier-families, for they wholly depend upon it for the means of existence; all would be lost by a revolution; and hence their fidelity and obedience become immovable. They are the descendants either of the Tartars, by whom China was subjugated, or of native Chinese, who received the invaders with open arms: they form, in truth, an aristocratical phalanx, possessing a much readier access to distinctions and official employments, than any other members of the community. The Tartar youth, who has no earthly possession but his bow and quiver, considers himself a hero, for they were the arms with which his ancestors the Manshoos, conquered the Celestial Empire, and no motive will induce him to lay them aside. There exist in these families, therefore, certain general principles of submission, order, and loyalty, which are amply sufficient to put down every tumult or popular commotion, and maintain public tranquillity. They know their strength, and are dreaded by the commonality.

LONDON TRADE REPORT.

Saturday Evening.—The principal sales of produce this week have consisted of British Plantation Sugars, 2,400 hogsheads, &c. at improved prices; of 7,500 bags of Bengal Sugars; of 11,500 bags of Mauritius Sugars, and several of foreign produce. The transactions in teas have been extensive by private contract. A purchase was completed to-day to the extent of 32,000l. a check having been given for the amount at once. The market, nevertheless, closed rather heavily, the trade being most anxious to hear the tenor of the next advices from Canton respecting the appearance of affairs there. There are many in the city who hold the opinion that the Chinese, to re-open the trade, will make such concessions as would induce Captain Elliot to assent to the re-opening of commercial intercourse.

The Cotton Trade.—The transactions here are not to any extent. The sales at Liverpool this week have amounted to nearly 25,000 bales. The stocks are 176,900 bales less than they were at the corresponding period of 1839. The sales on speculation this year are stated at 25,950 bales against 81,600 bales up to the same period last year. The trade have bought 197,200 bales this year, while in the corresponding period of last year the quantity taken for consumption was 12,400 bales.

The sales of produce at St. Petersburg on the 14th inst. were 100 casks of hemp oil, at 3 1-7 roubles per pood, cash, and 5,000 boxes of white Havanna sugar, at 7 2-7 roubles per pood.

At Gottenburg on the 19th instant, frieghts to Newcastle had been taken at 38s for two small vessels.

At Memel, from the 9th to the 14th inst., the following rates had been paid for freightage:—To Granton Pier, near Leith, 30s per load; to London, 20s to 20s 3d per load, and 171 10s per 1,000 pipe staves; Hull, 19s 6d per load; Gloucester, 24s per load.

Advices from Riga, dated the 17th inst., notice no [redacted] been some business done at 15 to 15½ R. B., and at this price there was some demand. In hemp seed there had been no business; purchases could be made at 11¼ R. B., half payment in advance. Hemp oil was at 109 R. B. For tallow there was no price. Clean hemp brought 91½ R. B., and export houses did not seem disposed to accede to any particular advance.—*Globe, March 20.*

THE WOOL MARKET (Saturday.)

Leeds.—Business continues much in the same state as for the last two months, and neither of our halls exhibit the usual bustle and activity of the season. The clothiers still attend in numbers, hoping to find a favourable change in the demand, but such hopes have hitherto ended in disappointment. Yet, for all this falling off in the usual channels of trade, we have as yet no great accumulation of stock, the clothiers having only made what would supply the market and very little more. This caution has saved a great portion of the manufacturers from ruin, but it has told with fearful effect upon the operatives, who are now, in a great measure, in a state of melancholy want, bordering on actual starvation, and with no prospect of a speedy termination of their sufferings.

Bradford.—We are sorry we cannot report any amendment in this market. The business done in wool was on a very limited scale, and prices lowered a little; the supply is very small. The yarnmarket, for the quantity of business done, continues steady, and the prices continue the same. They are, however, such as not to encourage longer hours. The piece market was even a worse one than last week. The business done was extremely small, and it was altogether a miserable market.

Rochdale.—The flannel-market was much the same as last week, though some thought there was a trifling improvement. Prices are the same. The wool market continues dull. Several failures of the smaller manufacturers have taken place.

Manchester.—There was no improvement whatever in our market on Tuesday. The demand both for yarn and goods was exceedingly limited, and prices continue to droop.

Huddersfield.—We have no new feature to report in the state of our market this week, except perhaps that it seems disposed to relax into the stagnant state for which it was so remarkable for three months previous to the last few weeks. There was no great demand for any kind of goods, and the actual sale was still less, on account of the manufacturers being utterly unable to replace their stocks at the prices offered; the whole system of trade seems to be completely deranged, by being involved in an apparently inextricable labyrinth of anomalous and conflicting interests; merchants, manufacturers and operatives, all alike complain that there is not only not adequate, but living remuneration, to be obtained. The wool market was rather dull, but there was no positive decline in prices.

Wakefield.—There has been less doing in all kinds of wool this week, and prices are again a shade lower.—*Ibid.*

MONEY MARKETS & CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Saturday Evening.

After the pressure of the last two days, the money bargains in stock seem to have been disposed of, and money has been to-day quite easy. This has been attended by a slight rise in Exchequer-bills, which are quoted at 4s. to 6s. premium. But little was done in the Consol-market, and the closing prices are the same as yesterday—namely, 90⅜ to ½ for money, and 90⅞ to 1 for the account.

Spanish stock is looked at with increasing interest, and it has caused no little surprise on the Stock-Exchange, that although the news of to-day has been anything but favourable to the bondholders, the stock continues rising. The prices come lower from Paris; the Administration of M. Thiers has become uncertain, and there are strong reasons to believe that Cabrera is alive, and yet the Actives left off at 29⅜ to ½, having in the course of the day been as high as 29¾. Hence there is a surmise that there are parties here who have information not known in Paris, which induces these continued efforts to keep up their value in London. Portuguese are a trifle lower, and the Five per Cents. left off at 35½ to ⅝. The business done in the foreign house was almost confined to Spanish stock, in which the transactions were numerous.

The share-market looks flat, and there is some depression in the prices. Birmingham are quoted 62 to 64 premium, Great Western at 1 to 2 premium, Brighton at 10¾ to ¼ discount.

Some intelligence has been received as to the commercial state of Egypt, and the bad prospect of any amelioration by the liberty of trade (according to the treaty of the 16th of August, 1838) which is to come into effect on the 1st of March. It appears that since 1834 the condition of the Egyptians has been growing worse and worse, and is at the present as bad as possible. The courtiers of the Viceroy went lately into the Delta to carry off everything, corn and money, and three persons were beaten to death to extort payment. The Pasha is proprietor of all Egypt. The "chief of cultivation," assisted by the "senator" of every village, makes an annual division of land to be cultivated by the inhabitants; and this partition being made, the sort of cultivation is determined, viz.. as to how much doura (a common article of food) there shall be, how much corn, pulse, and so on. The quantity of doura is determined according to the wants of the family, to whom this produce is appropriated; the rest is divided into classes. The corn, greens, and clover seed belong to the cultivator, excepting a quantity demanded by the Pasha, which varies every year, but generally amounts to one half or two-thirds of the crop, and the remainder, that is, the rice, cotton, sugar, indigo, and opium, is exclusively reserved for the Pasha, and the cultivators, under heavy penalties, are forbidden to take the least quantity. These are all put in the public magazines, and set down to the account of the "fellahs" (or cultivators) at a rate regulated by the Pasha, which never exceeds two-thirds of the selling price. The fellah pays the Pasha the "miry," a sort of land-tax, which varies, according to the soil, and also a personal tax, which varies, according to his means, from 15 piasters to 5 cents; further, his cattle are taxed at 20 piasters a head, and 70 when they are sold to the butcher, when the skin is a perquisite of the Government, and his camels and sheep at four piasters. Male children are subject to the personal tax at 12 years, and, as there is no registry, their age is only judged of by appearance, which creates an ambiguity of which Government can easily take advantage. The unfortunate "fellah" is likewise obliged to purchase every necessary from the public magazines. The very seeds he requires he must purchase from the Pasha at a higher price than that at which he delivered his grain. The receiver of the village opens an account with each inhabitant; the "fellah" is credited with the sums produced by the crops he has sent in, and debited with the taxes and price of things furnished, and a balance is struck every four years. If the "fellah's" balance is in debt, he is prosecuted; if a creditor, his balance is put to the account of any other "fellah" who may be indebted to the Government. Not only individuals, but even whole villages, thus become pledges for each other, and the result of this miserable system is, that a rich and industrious province may have to pay the taxes of a poor and idle one, while a great stimulus to trade is taken away by making the balance in favour of the "fellah" to him a mere nullity.

But even this is not all; the great cities are also taxed in almost every article of consumption, and the cultivator who has corn to sell cannot take it to market still all that belongs to the Govesnment is already sold. To get rid of the division of corn demanded by the Pasha, the cultivator sometimes makes a compensation in money, which he finds more advantageous, as he gets nothing by his credit on the Goverument account, and is able to sell his corn more profitably. Manufacturers are similarly oppressed, and those of long establishment can only sell to the Pasha, and that at his own price. Eggs and chickens cannot be sold in the city, nor can the Nile be fished in, without the payment of an espicial tax, and the branches of the palm-tree; and the fibrous bark which serves to make ropes, are subject to a particular import on sale, in addition to the tax on the soil where they are grown.

When the boasted liberty of commerce comes into effect, the Viceroy will, notwithstanding, continue sole proprietor of all Egypt; he will direct the cultivation, and the "fellah" will have to plant what he is ordered; the taxes on the soil and on cattle, and the personal tax, will still continue; so will the necessity of taking everything from the public magazines at a price fixed by the Pasha, who will also settle the price at which the "fellah" sells his crops to dealers; the system of one village guaranteeing another will continue, the duties on consumption will remain, and the old established manufactories still be taxed, and on the whole it is believed that Egyptian commerce will be worse off than ever.—*Times, March 2.*

The Bradford Chartists.—Paul and James Holdsworth, two more of the Bradford Chartists have been committed for trial at the approaching assizes, charged with riot and conspiracy. The principal witness against them was John Smith, of Nelson-court, Horton, a Chartist class leader, who deposed to certain conversations and transactions which had taken place in his house; Peddie, the man who stands charged with high treason, being the director of all the movements. The facts he stated were similar to those before detailed.—*Leeds Times.*

Church Rates.—On Saturday, at the Twickenham petty sessions, upwards of a dozen of the inhabitants of that parish were summoned before Captain Jelf Sharpe and Messrs. Murray and Twining, the sitting magistrates, to show cause why they had neglected or refused to pay the amount of church-rates assessed on them. Most of the defendants pleaded inability from the dearth of trade, and other depressing circumstances, and in all the cases time was given them to pay the respective amounts.

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